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## Factsheet Five
## Issue # 39

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# FACTSHEET FIVE #39

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This magazine was set in Palatino seven, eight and nine point, with twelve, eighteen and twenty-four point Palatino heads, on a Hewlett Packard LaserJet Series II printer, from files produced using Sprint and formatted with Xerox Ventura Publisher version 2.0 enhanced with Soft Kicker, and printed on a Web Leader press with Quadra-Color at World Printing, Albany, New York. Production computers include a 16 MHz Zeos 386SX, a 12 MHz Zeos 286, a Leading Edge Model D and a Tandy WP-2 Portable. For software I wouldn't be without 4DOS 3.0, Swapdos 1.00, GRABPlus, and Super PC-KWIK 1.54. I'm running Windows 3.0 these days, but I'm not all that thrilled with it. If you want to know more than this, phone me, so I can stop boring other people, OK?

Thanks to Bag of Water, Clif Bennett, Anthony M. Egan, Steve Emmons, Molly Gill and Krylon for their generous donations towards publishing this issue. Special thanks to those behind bars who send money; I realize that $2 for you is like $200 for many people (3 days wages).

Thanks to Doc Adams, Rane Arroyo, Bob Black, Mykel Board, Brian Burch, Donald F. Busky, Remy Chevalier, Edward C. Connors, James N. Dawson, Richard Dietzel, Paul Di Filippo, Chris Dodge, S. Doradus, Jim Fortney, Robert Furrer, Gene Guthrie, Joy Hibbert, Identity, Herb Jue, Ryszard Kapusta, Hudson Luce, Rod Matheson, Richard Miller, Tony Miller, Brad Mitchell, Trucia Quistarc, The Scarecrow, Henry Schneider, Joe Schwind, Singh, Thomas Slone, Stacey Sollfrey, Sparrow, Dale Speirs, Barry Taylor, Elayne Wechsler, Wildcoolroad, Martin Morse Wooster and Ernst Zollner for sending new and unknown zines for me to review in this issue. As usual we didn't get to reviewing much of this material, but we are making good contacts these ways.

Founderer Emeritus
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## Next Deadline:
## January 17, 1991
## (music & video deadline January 7, 1991)

# Factsheet Five

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Welcome to another issue of the zine of crosscurrents and cross-pollination. Available by mail or in person from Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502; phone (518)-479-3707 (24-hour answering machine, so call anytime); 300/1200/2400 baud phone (518)-479-3879 (call anytime you have a computer handy). Compuserve address is 72271,275; from InterNet, you can get there by addressing mail to 72271.275@compuserve.com. On The Well, I'm ffmike; the Netmail address for this is ffmike@well.sf.ca.us. This is Pretzel Press publication #851 and is intended for direct Bulk Mailing to subscribers and good people across the country, around the world, and right into your face. Press run: 8100 copies. 39th issue, October 1990.

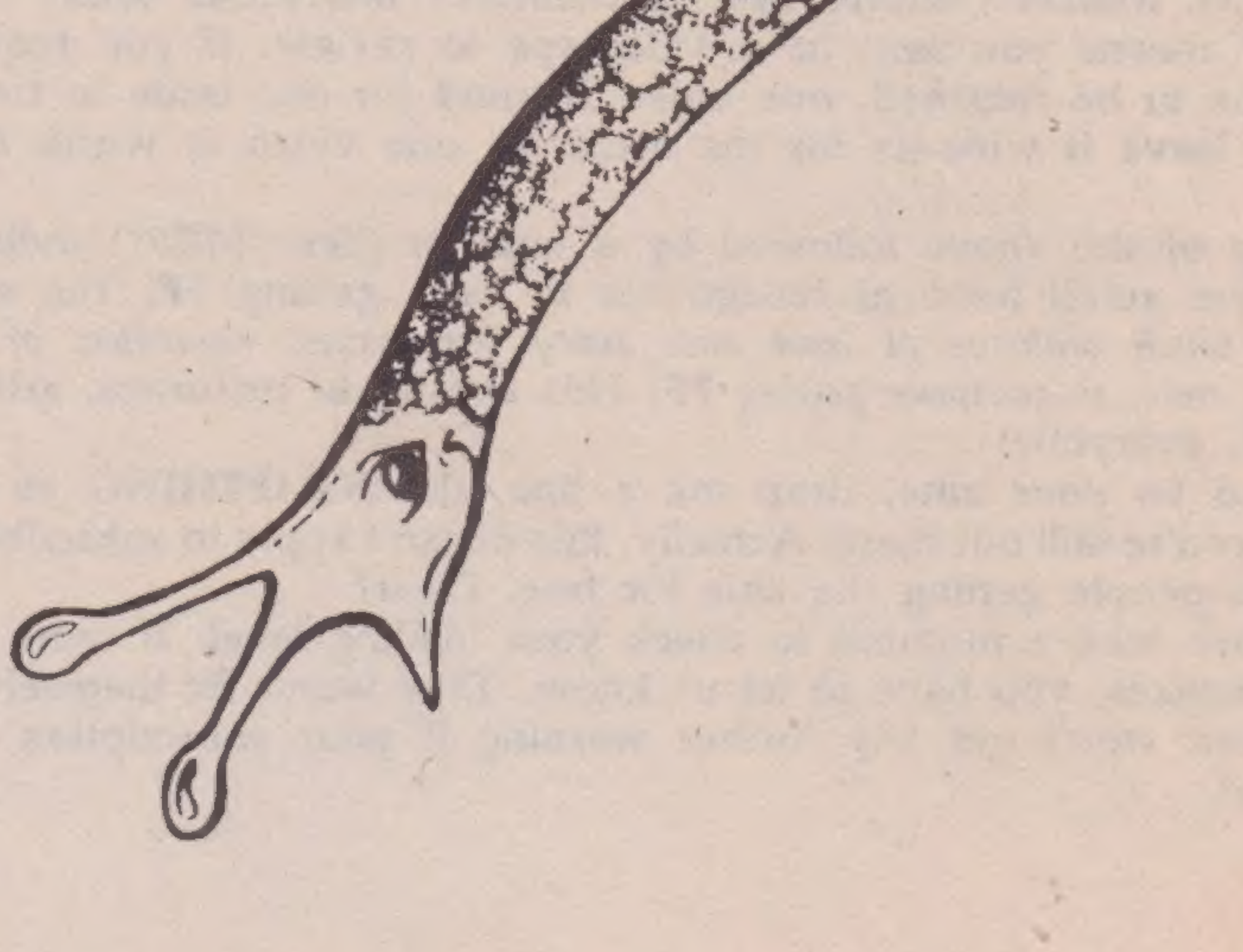
**FACTSHEET FIVE** is published eight times a year, appearing at roughly seven-week intervals. Deadlines for **FACTSHEET FIVE** are printed in the Explanatory Matter section of this zine. Our production schedule is very tight; missing the deadline by even one day almost always guarantees that your work will wait for the next issue.

Back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE** are available as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| #1,2,3,4,17.1 | $1 each |
| #18,20-33 | $2 each |
| #5-17, 34-39 | $3 each |
| #19 | $5 each |
| Complete set | $90 |

A glossary of unusual terms used in **FF** is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Guidelines for artists are available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.



## YOUR MAILING LABEL

This is where we explain the mailing code, on the far right of the first line of the address label.

A number indicates the last issue that you'll be getting. So if the number is "39", you need to Do Something if you want to keep getting FF. If the number is "39" and you don't even know why you got this, you probably have a Secret Admirer or something. Wanna subscribe?

There are a couple of things that can flank this number. If it's flanked with asterisks (*39*), you've paid for, and should be getting, first class postage. If it's flanked with carets (^39^), then this is a trade copy for which you paid first-class postage, after which you will revert to bulk-mail trade copies. If it's flanked with plus signs (+39+) you're getting a library subscription, including first-class postage, mailing envelopes, and the index.

"!" indicates that you've got nothing to worry about, because you're on the staph, you won a contest, or you just got lucky.

"A" means that you're getting this because of your artwork; either you sent us some or we want you to send us some, or both.

"B" means we're trading for a book you sent.

"D" means that you're a distributor and so you get one copy for yourself as a freebie. We're always looking for new distributors, people who can sell at least ten copies and want to split the proceeds. Distributors get a 40-50% wholesale discount on all copies, and may sell on consignment. The number after the colon is how many copies I think I'm sending you. For more information on terms, send an SASE.

"L" means you're a lifetime subscriber, and will receive every issue of the magazine as long as either it or you is alive. Lifetime subscribers get their copies sent out bulk mail, without extra goodies. If you want extra goodies, you should be a supporting subscriber (see below) instead. Lifetime subscribers may upgrade to supporting status at any time by paying the current difference in rates.

"M" means you sent us music to review. We will continue to send you copies as long as we stay on your mailing list. If you produce music infrequently, we expect at least a note every two issues to keep you on the mailing list.

"P" means you're a prisoner. **FACTSHEET FIVE** is always free to prisoners, but you need to keep in touch to keep getting it, otherwise we'll assume the copies aren't getting through to you. Wardens, you gotta pay like anyone else. Prisoners in mental institutions are extended the same privileges as those in allegedly-saner criminal institutions. *Prisoners must write at least every other issue to stay on the mailing list!* "R" means that this is a review/checking copy. It is for you to have to check the review we've done of your zine, or to be able to do a review of **FACTSHEET FIVE**. We would like to see further copies of yours for future review—though of course you're not obligated to publish a review. We will continue to send you R copies as long as we stay on your mailing list, whether you write reviews or not. If you publish infrequently, we expect at least a note every six months to keep you on the mailing list.

"R?" means that we'd like you to consider sending copies of your zine in return for review/checking copies of mine.

"S" means that you are a Supporting Subscriber, and therefore exempt from nonsense. Supporting subscribers get their issues sent First Class, with the index included. They also get free copies of **FACTSHEET FIVE** publications as they're issued—most recently, with #39, Merritt Clifton's **THE SAMISDAT METHOD** book.

"V" means you sent us a videotape to review. If you require the tape to be returned, one video is good for one issue in trade; if you leave it with us for the archives, one video is worth four issues.

Any of the above followed by a number (like "M/39") indicate the issue you'll have to renegotiate to keep getting **FF**. *You must get in touch with us at least once every two issues, regardless of the mailing code, to continue getting* **FF**! This applies to prisoners, artists, traders, everyone!

Send us your zine, drop me a line, do **SOMETHING** so we know you're still out there. Actually, this doesn't apply to subscribers, only to people getting the zine for free. Clear?

Please take a moment to check your mailing label. If there are any mistakes, you have to let us know. They won't fix themselves. And you won't get any further warning if your subscription has run out.

And remember, **FF** is sent *bulk mail.* Not only does this make it slow (though, I hope, not *too* slow), but it means undeliverable copies go to that Big Post Office In The Sky. So **PLEASE** get your COAs to me promptly to avoid missing issues. We are not responsible for copies lost due to unannounced moves. Please allow at least four weeks for delivery.

Here's the basic subscription rates:

Regular bulk rate subscription (U.S. only): $3.50 per issue up to seven issues, $23 for an eight issue (one year) subscription.

Surface Mail subscription (outside U.S. only): $4 or 10 IRCs per issue up to seven issues, $27 or 68 IRCs for an eight issue (one year) subscription.

First class subscription (U.S. only): $5.00 per issue up to seven issues, $33 for an eight issue (one year) subscription.

Library subscription (includes the index and first class mailing in a protective envelope) (U.S. only): $5.50 per issue up to seven issues, $40 for an eight issue (one year) subscription.

Air Mail subscription (outside U.S. only): $7 or 18 IRCs per issue up to seven issues, $50 or 125 IRCs for an eight issue (one year) subscription.

Lifetime subscription (anywhere in North America): $75.
Lifetime subscription (outside of North America): $190.
Supporting subscription (anywhere in North America): $200.
Supporting subscription (outside of North America): $500.

We accept for payment cash (U.S. or otherwise), check or money order *drawn in U.S. funds* (please make payable to **FACTSHEET FIVE**), or international reply coupons. Please note that we cannot accept checks or money orders drawn in foreign currency. I am, however, happy to accept cash (bank notes) from any country at the official rate of exchange. If you live in a country whose currency does not convert, please write and we'll work out a deal. Those in the Warsaw Pact are encouraged to request a sample copy in exchange for local publications, underground or otherwise.

**FF** now takes MasterCard and Visa! (Awesome, isn't it?) For orders over $10 *only*, you can charge it, by mail, phone, or computer. By mail, be sure to send your card type (MasterCard or Visa), number, expiration date, name as it appears on the card, bank name, and a daytime phone number, as well as your signature. If we do not get *all* of this information, we cannot process your order! By phone, call (518)-479-3707 and leave the same informaton (minus the signature, of course). By computer, call the FF BBS at (518)-479-3879 and take the (O)rder option from the main menu. Or send the requested information in an Internet message to ffmike@well.sf.ca.us.

Unless you specify otherwise, all subscriptions start with the current issue.

**TIRED OF WAITING FOR BULK MAIL?** You can upgrade a Bulk Mail subscription to First Class delivery at any time by sending $1.50 for each issue remaining on your Bulk Mail subscription. Publishers and others who get their issues without paying may have them delivered first class for $1.50 per issue. This rate is only valid if you would have received that issue anyhow.

If you want **FF** sent to a friend, just send their address and $3.50, or $5.00 if you're in a hurry. **FF** makes a great Christmas, birthday, or Bar Mitzvah present. We'll mark it as a gift from you unless you specify otherwise.

In lieu of sending stamps, money, fanzines, artwork, books, or music, you can get **FF** by sending us something to review that we haven't seen before, or by bartering canned goods, negotiable securities, wind-up sushi, shark's teeth, Magic Rocks, limited edition wallpaper, or other interesting or amusing flotsam from our society.

**Addresses for FF Columnists:**
Anni Ackner, c/o Tell me A Story, 9 N. 5th St., Reading, PA 19601.
Garry De Young, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252
Bob Grumman, 1708 Hayworth Rd., Port Charlotte, FL 33952.
Joe Lane, PO Box 4083, Terre Haute, IN 47804-4083
Ted Stamas, 1218 S. 11th St, Philadelphia, PA 19147
Kerry Thornley, PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307
**Addresses for FF artists:**
Teddy Harvia, PO Box 905, Euless, TX 76039.
Tuli Kupferberg, 160-6 Ave., New York, NY 10013.
Andrew Lehman, 2215 W. Montrose, Chicago, IL 60618.

Gene Mahoney, "Good Clean Fun", 9300 Wilshire Blvd. #470, Beverly Hills, CA 90212—samples to editors for SASE.

Harry Walker Jr., 167-363 PO Box 56, Lebanon, OH 45036.

Blair Wilson, 4908 University View Place NE, Seattle, WA 98105.

**(ARTISTS!** If you want to be listed here, please drop us a line).

## FACTSHEET FIVE PROJECTS

•**THE SAMISDAT METHOD** is Merritt Clifton's book on doing your own offset printing, at home, for as little money as possible. It garnered rave reviews in the first three editions, and now **FACTSHEET FIVE** is proud to be bringing out the fourth edition. This 112-page operfect-bound book can be yours, shipping included, for the cover price of $10.00 if you act now.

•The first **FACTSHEET FIVE** compilation tape is out! Subtitled "Music For The Perplexed", it's meant as an introduction to new music for our readers, whether you're familiar with the field or not. On the tape you'll hear: Sirens Call, Eric Hausmann, Raymond Bally, Lab Rat, The Atomics, Bern Nix, Sam Black Church, Arms of Someone New, Arson Garden, The Easygoings, Changes to Blind, and Mental Anguish; a pretty good line-up, we think. With liner notes from Andrea 'Enthal and cover art by Joey Shea, the tape can be yours for only $6.95 postpaid. Try it, you'll like it.

•**STALKING THE WILD READER IN RIVER CITY** is a 56-page account of the small press over the last couple of decades in Terre Haute, Indiana, written by our Fishing Hole columnist Joe Lane. The cover price is $5, but you can get a copy postpaid for $4 because you're smart enough to read about it here.

•A couple of things which used to be **FF** projects are now being handled by other people. The Gemstone File, that medley of modern conspiracy theory running over 100 pages, is available for $12.50 from Ron Bonds, IllumiNet Press, PO Box 746, Avondale, GA 30002. Ron will give you 5¢ per page credit for new conspiracy material you send him in trade. And Martti Koski's pamphlet **MY LIFE DEPENDS ON YOU**, telling of his own experiences with mind control at the hands of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, may be ordered for $1 from Scott Tinch, 453 Robertsville Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 39830.

•We have available for other publishers a list of distributors and stores who would like to see new zines for possible sale. This includes all the folks who sell FF, whether directly or to stores, and with as many details as possible on what they want and what their terms are as I know. Send us an SASE (be sure to tell me what it's for!) and we'll send you a copy.

•The collected **WHY PUBLISH?** book, including most of the words published on this subject in the first 30 issues of **FF**, as well as new material from Miekal And, Joel Biroco, Stewart Brand and Merritt Clifton, is now available for only $3.50 postpaid. Don't miss this; there were only 500 printed and we probably won't do any more.

•If you like Anni Ackner's columns you'll love her book. The collection is called **NOBODY LOVES A VISUAL ARTS CRITIC**, and it features all of her writings from **FF**, as well as four new columns (unavailable elsewhere), an introduction by Elayne Wechsler and graphics by Freddie Baer. 134 pages long, you can get a copy book rate for $4, or first class for $5.50. 75% of the profits are going to Anni, so we'd really like to sell a lot of these. Think what they'll be worth in twenty years when she's a wealthy mainstream author.

•**FACTSHEET FIVE** T-Shirts, designed by Freddie Baer, are now available for a measley $10.00 postpaid. The new shirts are white ink on a black heavy-duty all-cotton shirt. Specify size or we'll send you whatever we feel like. Think of the possibilities for starting a conversation! (XXL available for $2 extra; inquire about even larger sizes).

•There's another new set of **FF** ads available, camera-ready for anyone who wants to run them. In the future we may swap or pay for some of these to be published, but meanwhile if you want to give us a free plug write and we'll send you a copy.

•We're maintaining a list of electronic mail addresses for people involved in fanzines. Since this is rather pointless if you don't have a computer, I'm not offering paper copies. You can download the latest version from the FF BBS (518-479-3979) which is also a good place to leave me mail if you'd like to be added to the list. The list is also available on the WELL, where I am ffmike, from the f5 conference menu.

•The **FF ZINE EXCHANGE** is still running, although it remains, as always, a low priority compared to actually publishing the magazine. Zine Editors: If you're at all interested in having samples of your zine go to people who don't even know you exist, send as many as you want to us to distribute. The rest of you: Send us an SASE with 25¢ to $2.40 postage and we'll stuff it with whatever we have laying about ($2.40 is enough to mail a couple of pounds in the country, so use a decent-sized envelope [10x13 is a good size]: two pounds is about 8 issues of FF, OK?). You should also take a look at a rate chart; while $2.40 will cover postage on two pounds, $2.30 is only enough for eleven ounces. I'd recommend springing for the full two pounds. You might also take note of some similar offers:

Absinthe Press's (537 Jones St. #484, San Francisco, CA 94102) offer of a SAN FRANCISCO FUNPAK of cultural and tourist freebies about that city is available to anyone who sends a 9x12 SASE with $2.40 in postage, or who sends 3 IRCs or a similar package from their own local scene in a foreign country.

**AFTERSHOCK** fanzine will fill up SASEs with posters, flyers, comics and zines.

Lucinda Goodwin's (PO Box 127224, San Diego, CA 92112) offer to stuff large SASEs with "as many zines and other neat stuff that it can hold."

Gene Guthrie's (6221 Acton Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46259) offer to send local freebies to anyone who sends him postage;

Plaster Cramp Press's offer to fill up SASEs of any size with freebies, flyers, old zines and other stuff.

The "Small Press Food Shelf" is run by the **POETRY HARBOR** folks in Duluth (1619 Jefferson St., Duluth, MN 55812): they give stuff away in person and *not* by mail, so don't send for it, but they'd be delighted to have your excess literary output to distribute;

Dallas Swan's (PO Box 270, Horntown, VA 23395) offer to fill up large SASEs with as many zines as they will hold;

Jim Testa's (151 First Ave., Box A., New York, NY 10003) Demo Xchange of band demo tapes, also available for a few dollars postage;

R. Wherever's (11 Bayberry Ln., Cohasset, MA 02025) offer to fill up large SASEs with as many zines as they will hold.

and Rosemary West's (PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346) offer of personalized computer-generated poetry for 50¢ an ounce, up to five pounds—send your name and the names of a few friends to assure personalization.

Anyhow, remember, send a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE to minimize the work we have to do. We mean it. The next person who sends a blank envelope and a check, instead of buying the stamps himself and pasting them on, is going to get something nasty in the mail. If he gets anything at all. OK, OK, we'll make an exception for those of you in foreign countries: just send me a check or cash and a self-addressed envelope and we'll do the rest. Those out of the country can supply up to $4.50 worth of postage, since the rates are higher. Those in the country should stop using such obviously glued stamps or I'm going to start pitching your envelopes in the trash. *This has already happened to some people stupid enough to ignore what I've said! Use mint stamps only!!* (Look, it's OK to glue down un-used stamps; what we're upset about is people putting the glue over the top of them so they can be re-used. If this doesn't make sense to you, call and ask). And please be patient; Zine Exchange envelopes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The backlog of orders waiting to be filled has been reduced considerably in the last few months, but there's still something like a 2-month line ahead of you.

A few clarifications about the Zine Exchange: No, we am not going to send you any back issues of **FACTSHEET FIVE**. No, you may not request a specific zine you saw reviewed here; that copy is in the archives, and that's where it's staying. You can request a specific type of zine, but often we cannot fill requests; it depends on what's been sent to us recently for distribution.

•We put together an index to each issue, usually about a 24-page pamphlet. If you want to see a copy, send $1.50. To get it every issue, you should sign up for a library rate subscription.

•**HOW TO PUBLISH A FANZINE** is, alas, out of print. If you don't have a copy, you'll have to wait for the next edition, scheduled for early 1991. We will be making arrangements for a discount for those who already own the first edition.

## GETTING ZINES

Just a few hints to consider when you're writing away for fanzines:

•If we list a name in the address for a zine, you ought to make checks or money orders out to that name rather than the zine name. If a zine has odd payment requirements, we try to note this in the address section of the listing. In general, cash is preferable to money orders which are preferable to checks. But if you send cash, wrap it carefully, and don't send coins!

•On a related topic, when we put a question mark after the price it means that we're guessing because the zine editors didn't list a price.

•We list single copy rates whenever we can find them, otherwise we try to indicate how many issues your subscription covers. If we put something like "$10/yr" it means we can't tell how many issues come out in a year.

•If we separate issue numbers with a dash, they're single issues; a slash indicates two-in-one issues. So, for example, "#7-11/12" indicates that we received #7, a double issue containing #11 and #12, and everything in between. Prices given are for one issue, not for a set of all the issues reviewed, unless otherwise indicated.

•On zines with a price under $1, it really helps to include a few stamps for postage. "SASE" means self-addressed stamped envelope: #10 with 25¢ postage unless otherwise specified.

•Don't send loose coins in an envelope. If you want to send coins, tape them to an index card and wrap a piece of paper around that. And remember that there's a postal surcharge on envelopes more than 1/4 inch thick.

•Canadians and some Britishers generally don't mind receiving U.S. funds in cash. For Canada it is generally safe to send US$1 for each C$1 in price; the exchange rate is high enough to cover postage. For Great Britain, US$2 for each £1 asking price similarly allows for postage even after covering the exchange. For other countries you should think about alternative payment. Foreign currency is available at larger banks, and IRCs (International Reply Coupons, which can be exchanged for stamps almost anywhere in the world) at your post office. Foreign MOs are also available from the post office, but can take forever to get. Sending checks to other countries is not a good idea; bank exchange charges can be outrageous.

•"Age Statement" means that you should send along a signed note saying that you're over 18 (or over 21, if you are) to help the publisher avoid legal hassles associated with distributing sexually-explicit material. In fact, it's a good idea to include an age statement for any zine that might contain blunt writing or explicit pictures, whether we mention it in the review or not.

•OPENQUOTEThe Usual" refers to the traditional method of obtaining SF fanzines without sullying oneself with cash. Generally this includes trading other zines, writing locs, contributing articles or art, or being recipient of a whim. These days $1 is often accepted as the equivalent to these more active approaches.

•We'd appreciate it if you'd mention **FACTSHEET FIVE** when ordering zines you saw reviewed here. It helps us all in the long run, as the more credibility we build up the more fine zines we'll be able to bring to your attention.

•If you have any problems with a zine please let us know. We'll be happy to contact publishers in cases of non-receipt. 99% of the time it's just a case of things being lost in the mail. If you are writing to complain, it is imperative to include all the details: what you ordered, when, what form of payment and how much you sent, as well as what you've done to follow up yourself.

•If you have time, any zine publisher enjoys hearing comments on the zine he has sent you. This is especially true if you didn't like it; we all like to improve. Even a simple note of thanks can make a publisher's day, though.

•Many zine publishers print small quantities, so you may not be able to get the exact issue that I reviewed. If you must have that particular issue, say so, and be prepared to pay extra. Otherwise it's best just to request the most recent or the next issue and save trouble for everyone. And be patient; if the current issue is all gone, it may take a while.

•And since it may take a while, the envelope your order came in may get lost. Make sure your address is on the letter itself! Otherwise you may not get your copy despite the best intentions of the publisher.

•Most zine publishers are willing to exchange their zines for others, so we generally don't mention this in listings unless I know they *don't* swap. But use some discretion—a 150-page typeset music publication is unlikely to swap with a 4-page xeroxed newsletter on Central American farming. And remember, publishers are under no obligation to respond to unsolicited zines, so if you can't afford to give away the copy, don't send it.

•When an advertiser or publication indicates a price of, for example, $_{o}2^{oo}$ or $_{o}5^{oo}$, you should send that many Federal Reserve Notes ("dollar bills") in cash. Many people would say $2 or $5, but there are those who draw a strong distinction between authentic dollars and the evidence of the US debt issued by the Federal Reserve.

•When ordering books, shirts, comics and other non-periodicals which originate within your own state, be sure to enclose money to cover sales tax.

★★★★★

## THOSE FUNNY NUMBERS

What the little stuff in parentheses after each zine review do is tell you how big the zine is. First comes a letter for the size of the paper, or at least close to it:

| | |
|---|---|
| A3 | A3 size, about 11 1/2 by 16 1/4 |
| A4 | A4 size, about 8 1/4 by 11 1/2 |
| A5 | A5 size, about 5 3/4 by 8 1/4 |
| D | Digest, 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 |
| HL | Half Legal, 7 by 8 1/2 or 4 1/4 by 14 |
| HS | Half Standard, 4 1/4 by 11 |
| L | Legal, 8 1/2 by 14 |
| M | Mini, 4 1/4 by 5 1/2 |
| MM | Micro, smaller than mini |
| O | Oversized, larger than tabloid or odd-sized |
| Q | Quarto, 8 by 10 |
| S | Standard, 8 1/2 by 11 |
| T | Tabloid, usually 11 by 17 on newsprint |

Next comes a number, which is the number of pages. Last there may be a suffix: "t" for typeset or laser-printed, or "r" for photo-reduced or small type.

Also, at the front of reviews of zines being listed for the first time you will find the symbol □ .

## ADVERTISING

**FACTSHEET FIVE** advertising space is available as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Back Cover | 7 1/2 by 5 3/4 |
| Full Page | 7 1/2 by 9 3/4 |
| Half Page | 7 1/2 by 4 3/4 |
| Half Page | 3 3/4 by 9 3/4 |
| Quarter Page | 3 3/4 by 4 3/4 |
| Eighth Page | 3 3/4 by 2 1/4 |
| Twelfth Page | 2 1/4 by 2 |

Copy should be submitted as camera-ready, in the size it is to run. For sizes not on the list, please call me. *Please note: a standard business card is an eighth-page ad.* Current rates are as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Back Cover with Second Color | $190.00 |
| Full Page with Second Color | $170.00 |
| Full Page | $145.00 |
| Half Page | $80.00 |
| Quarter Page | $50.00 |
| Eighth Page | $25.00 |
| Twelfth Page | $12.50 |

Ads which are paid in advance for two or more insertions may take a 20% discount from the above prices—and are protected from price rises during the life of the ad. This discount does not apply to twelfth page ads. This discount also does not apply to ads with a second color.

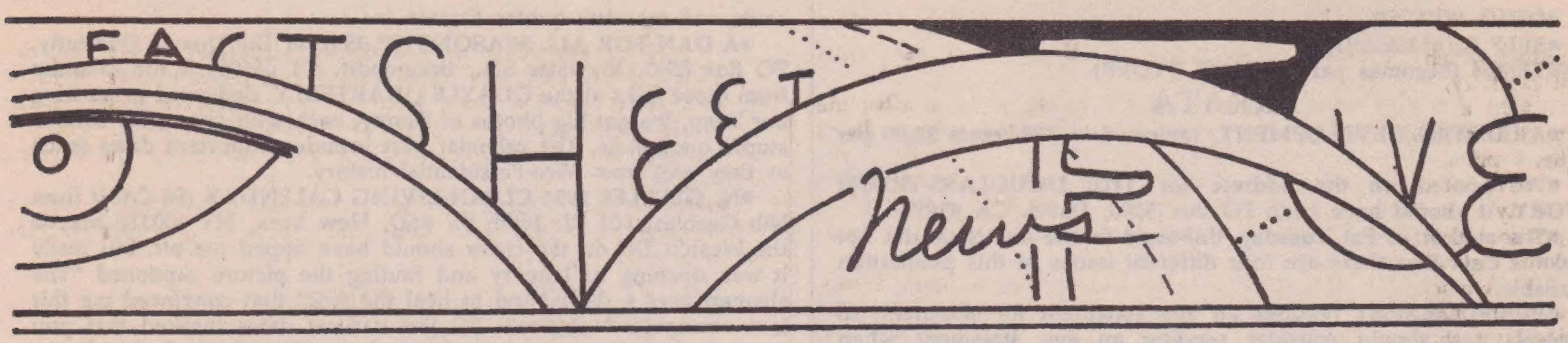
Ad space needing a second color, either back cover or interior, should be reserved with us before sending in copy, as this space is obviously limited. Ads for the inside back cover should also be reserved. Other ads need not reserve space in advance, though you're welcome to do so. Generally, we do not trade advertising with other publishers, though we make *rare* exceptions for those with a large circulation in areas that I don't ordinarily reach.

Classified ads are now available for 25¢ per word, minimum 20 words, maximum 500 words.

Please note that the back cover ad space is *not* the same size as a full interior page!

**Deadlines for upcoming issues:**

| | |
|---|---|
| #40 | Jan. 17, 1991 |
| #41 | Feb. 28, 1991 |
| #42 | Apr. 18, 1991 |
| #43 | May 31, 1991 |
| #44 | July 18, 1991 |
| #45 | Sept. 5, 1991 |



## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

•**A.C.T.** has moved to PO Box 84001, Trafalgar Postal Outlet, Oakville, ONT, L6H 5V7, CANADA.

•**THE ALTERNATIVE VOICE** may be heard at PO Box 25125, Tempe, AZ 85285-5125.

•**AMERICAN AIRGUNNER** has shot off to PO Box 1459, Abilene, TX 79604-1459.

•**ANOTHER PAIR OF SHOES** is now worn at 2398 Jansen Ave., White Bear Lake, MN 55110.

•Apraxia Records, Blowhole, and Lab Rat have all moved to PO Box 765, Manitou Springs, CO 80829.

•**ARTPAPER** is now at 2402 University Ave. W, St., Paul, MN 55114.

•**BARKING SPIDER** mey be heard at 9820 Lockerbie, El Paso, TX 79925.

•The defense committee for Kevin Bjornsen, one of the folks being prosecuted as part of "Operation Green Merchant", is now reachable c/o Hydrotech Manufacturing, 821 N. 40th St., Seattle, WA 98103-7805.

•**BRIMSTONE** is smoking up the house in PO Box 660, Marstons Mills, MA 02648.

•Matthew Burnett has moved to 3870-A 18th St., San Francisco, CA 94114. He's had some postal problems, so if you've had no response when ordering his music, please write again.

•**DOGFISH HEAD** and **SHITBOY COMIX** have moved to Kimball, Box 1075 Hampshire College, Amherst, MA 01002.

•Donny the Punk has moved again, this time to 90 Morningside Dr. #2K, New York, NY 10027.

•Darrell Draeger and Hermanos Guzanos are now reachable at 721 N. Fairfax, Bakersfield, CA 93306.

•**HAPA** has moved to Joe Lane, PO Box 4083, Terre Haute, IN 47804-4083.

•**III Publishing** has moved to PO Box 170363, San Francisco, CA 94117-0363.

•Joseph Kerrick has relocated to PO Box 17231, Philadelphia, PA 19105.

•**LIZZENGREASY** is in new digs at Dai Ni Kuroda Kopo 203, Funabashi 5-30-6, Setagaya-Ku, Tokyo 156, JAPAN.

•**MICROFICTIONS, BETWEEN THE LINES**, and Erik Kosberg are now at 2816 Xerxes Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55416.

•**MIND X** is recuperating at PO Box 1673, Lancaster, PA 17603.

•**MOLE** has tunneled off to PO Box 5033, Herndon, VA 22070.

•**MONGO STACK** is now at 1750 30th St. #323, Boulder, CO 80301.

•Cynde Moya of the Institute for Paranormal Research has moved again, this time to 513 Wilshire Blvd. #204, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

•**MY GHETTO** has moved to Al, 112 Folly Park, Oakley Road, Clapham, Beds., MK41 6AF, ENGLAND.

•**THE MYSTERY FANCIER** has migrated to 2024 Clifty Dr., Madison, IN 47250.

•**NERVOUS HABITS** and Glenn Norman are fidgeting in PO Box 57, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane, QLD 4006, AUSTRALIA.

•**NEWS OF THE WATCHMEN** and the Universal Church of God have moved to HC 67, Box 135, Mount Ida, AR, 71957. •**THE ODINIST** has had its zip changed to PO Box 1647, Crystal River, FL 32623.

•Plaster Cramp Press, Brad Russell, and Seth Tisue may all be reached at PO Box 5975, Chicago, IL 60680-5975.

•**ROX** is now in a box, in fact PO Box 423, Joppa, MD 21085-0423.

•**SCREAMING ROCK** and Shauna Sky may now be heard at 6334 S. Long, Chicago, IL 60638.

•**SHADOWPLAY** now has a new US address (which supplements but does not replace the Australian address): PO Box 21768, Seattle, WA 98122.

•Michael J. Stotts, founder of P.A.N.A.L., has been moved to #17829-034, PMB 7007, Marianna, FL 32446.

•**STRANGE DAMAGE** is now at 635 Princeton Dr., Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

•**TEEN PUNKS IN HEAT** and Ben Weasel are panting at PO Box 62, Prospect Heights, IL 60070.

•**THIS ROCK & ROLL** is now bouncing around at 51 Macdougal St. #123, New York, NY 10012.

•**TOONS FROM HELL** has moved to 5153 Saul St., Philadelphia, PA 19124-1919.

•**VULGAR TONGUE** is now stuck at PO Box 59256, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

•**WEIRD CITY** and Dave Szurek now watch their movies at 1116 E. First St. #2, Aberdeen, WA 98520.

•**YGGDRASIL PRESS** is putting down new roots at PO Box 1742, Arlington, TX 76004.

•**ZOOMCRANK COMIX** and Mark Cunningham have moved to 601 S. 6th Ave., St. Charles, IL 60174.

Remember, since it costs us 30¢ just to get your COA if the Post Office tells us, and remailing your FF would cost us the price of another copy plus first class postage (they don't return whole issues, just covers), we're not inclined to send you a replacement when this happens. If you want to keep your collection complete, send me your Change of Address as soon as you know it!

## LOST ADDRESSES

Anybody got a current address for any of these?

•Merle & Michie Allen, last seen in New York. (requested by Jon Martin)

•**MAGNET SCHOOL** & Maurice Forrester (requested by Geof Huth)

•L.D. Hartfield-Coe (last seen in Seattle) and Tor Detweiller (last seen in Chicago) (requested by **THING**,

•David Hynds (requested by **BIKINI GIRL**)

•Marcy Sheiner, Timo Waterman, Dave Gilman, and K.D. Tibbetts (all requested by **BAD HAIRCUT**)

•**MUSIC TO DIE FOR**

•**MUTATED VIRUSES**

•**POSTWAR USA**

•Random Art Transfer (requested by Apraxia)

By the way, if you've had any correspondents go missing lately, feel free to send their names to be added to this listing.

## DEAD ZINES

All of the following have ceased publication in the last few months:

•**ATHEIST PENPAL 'ZINE**

•**COMBAT SPORTSGRAM**

•**DEAD JESUIT GAZETTE**

•**DIRT BOMB**

•**DISTORTED VISIONS**

•**E3**

•**ECOSPIRIT**

•**EXPRESSO TILT**

•**FROM THE MOUNTAIN** (and good riddance)

•**THE GRUMBLING YAK**

•**HEATHENZINE** (becomes part of **BLUE RYDER**).

•**HUNGRY ZIPPER**

•**INDEPENDENT GLOBALLY**

•**LIFE ON PLANET EARTH**

•**THE OBLIGATORY SIN** (Suspending publication until early 1992)

•**OHIO WRITER**
•**SELF PUBLISHER!**
•**TEMM** (becomes part of **BLUE RYDER**).

## ERRATA

•**ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT**, reviewed in #38, costs $2.00 per issue.

•We goofed on the address for **THE DOUGLASS-TRUTH STORY.** It should have been PO Box 5000, Davis, CA 95617.

•The review of **Fat Tuesday Unbound** in the last issue did not make it clear that there are four different issues of this publication available.

•**FURNOGRAPHY** requires an age statement for shipment. In general, you should consider sending an age statement when ordering *any* adult-oriented material.

•**INTERCEPTED** charges for postage, which was left out last time; see the current review for the proper price.

•**POPPIN' ZITS #7** is 48 pages, not 30 as we suggested. Still $3 from Jerod Pore, 1800 Market St. #141, San Francisco, CA 94102.

•**REGURGITATION** was actually a collaboration between Michael Norton and Amanda Waggoner, and is available from 107 E. Monroe St., Austin, TX 78704.

•We apologize for misquoting a poem from **SONGS FOR THE BUTCH**. The proper quote is "The Lesbians are out there too/doing what it is they do."

•Last time we implied in a review of **STICKY CARPET DIGEST** that Sergio Taubman directed *Sex, Lies, and Videotape*.

•**SUPERNOVA** was mistakenly listed under Music Zines, instead of in the main Zines section where this science fiction zine belonged.

•Mychele's lesbian sexy story V, reviewed in the last issue, had incorrect ordering information. The correct price is $3 from her at PO Box 1892, Tempe, AZ 85280-1892.

•Several videos have been given the wrong price in recent issues. Both **BEST OF BERLIN INDEPENDENCE DAYS '88** and **KINGS OF INDEPENDENCE** are available directly from Video Music Inc. (PO Box 1128, Norristown, PA 19404) for $23.99 plus $2.75 s&h (plus sales tax in PA and $1.50 more shipping to Canada). They take credit cards as well as check and money order.

•Oops. Erroneously attributed to Spryszak was a terrific story by Willie Smith ("Media Blitz") in last issue's review of **MALLIFE**.

## HALL OF SHAME

We have unresolved complaints of non-delivery about the following zines. Write for them at your own risk. Please note that you really have to work at it to end up on this list. If you write us to complain about a publisher, first we'll write to the publisher myself and see if things can be straightened out. Then, after a month, if there's still no satisfaction and no good explanation, they'll end up here.

•**CROW**, Bill-Dale Marcinko, Wharton, NJ.

•Ray Ram is a person, not a publisher, but he owes us ten bucks and has moved without forwarding address and perhaps seeing his name here will shame him into coughing it up.

•**TRUE CRIME TRADING CARDS** (Apparently moved without forwarding address—watch out for other projects by Kim Asseley)

## CALENDARS

For a change calendars are getting to us in time to be reviewed before they're out of date. We'rem so pleased by this that they're getting their own section right here:

•**The 1991 MURDER CAN BE FUN DATEBOOK** ($2 from John Marr, PO Box 640111, San Francisco, CA 94109) is out, and up to the standard set by previous editions. This desktop two-weeks-at-a-glance calendar has a different depraved, depressing or disgusting event on each day, from war games gone awry to the trial of Countess Bethary to shootings and explosions and hangings. All different from last year, and with the usual assortment of snide and macabre quotes thrown in.

1991 ROAD KILL CALENDAR
STILL AVAILABLE !!
ONLY $4.00 P.P.

Jeanie M.
P.O. Box 26372
San Francisco, CA
94126

•**A DAN FOR ALL SEASONS** ($7.95 from The Quayle Quarterly, PO Box 8593, Brewster Sta., Bridgeport, CT 06605) is the calendar from those folks at the **QUAYLE QUARTERLY**, dedicated to tracking our Veep. It's got big photos of Danny, each with one of his famous stupid quotations. The calendar part includes important dates (such as they are) from Vice-Presidential history.

•**N. GEEBLES 1991 CLEAN-LIVING CALENDAR** ($6 *CASH* from Nib Geebles, 601 W. 160th St. #6D, New York, NY 10032): Maybe the Wash'n Dri on the cover should have tipped me off, but really it was opening to January and finding the picture captioned "The shaman uses a dachshund to heal the sick" that convinced me this is a strange item indeed. It's got various dates marked that you won't find in other calendars either, things like "Festival of tantrums and emotional collapse" and "Turn your life into a media circus". A unique gift item.

•**GREY LEGACY CALENDAR 1991** ($2 from Fragile Elite Studio, RD 1 Box 115, Graysville, PA 15337): A promotional calendar for the **GREY LEGACY** comic, featuring tales of love and growing up in a strange interstellar university. Lots of fine art here, from a series that's been drawing positive notices in the reviewzines.

•**UNCLE STAN'S PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED "WORLD OF PHARMACY" 1'991 CALENDAR** ($3 from The Animating Apothecary, 107 N. 27th St., Battle Creek, MI 49015): A calendar for pharmacists or people with strange senses of humor. It features lots of baroque calligraphy and illumination, pharmacy jokes (*most* of which I understand), strange dates in history, listings of werewolf moon days, quotes, and bozographic humor. Back issues from 1988 through 1990 are available for the same price, and also fun.

## T-SHIRTS

•**Alchemy Dispatch** has submitted their latest in a series of "events," the first 4 being zines and their 5th a startling t-shirt—an open-jawed pit bull with nastiest set of pearly whites. I wouldn't wear it if you're a home health aide. Shirts are white with a black design, 100% cotton beefy (S,M,L), $6.50 ppd for one, $11.50 for 2, and $5 each for 3 or more from Linc Kinnicutt, Box 1156, 610 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02215.

•**Bite The Wax Godhead** (649 E. 14th St. #3F, New York, NY 10009) has a shirt out promoting their band (consisting of "three humans and a drum machine"). It's got their name and a squatting Central American Indian candle, in black on a yellow 50-50 shirt. $10 in L or XL, also available on aqua or pink.

•**DEMOLISH SERIOUS CULTURE** shirts feature a black bomb with that slogan printed on it in fluorescent green and yellow text. The shirt itself is white and all cotton. $13 via air from M. Pawson, PO Box 664, London, E5 0JW, UK). Also available in long sleeve for $19 or on a turquoise or purple shirt for only $13.

•**Fuzzy Ink** (901 E. Hedrick, Tucson, AZ 85719) sent us several shirts. "O Benazir" features a head shot of the (probably ex-) ruler of Pakistan, in black on a white 50-50 shirt with the lips in fiery red, available for $10. "Have a Nice Day" features a grizzled Charles Manson, forehead swastika and all, in black on a tan 50-50 golf shirt (kelly green also available) for $15. "Nude Lady" is not what most of you might think—but it could pass for a party favor from a stag party: a simple 3/4 silhouette of a nude woman drawn in black on a red shirt. Her hands are up behind her head, but nothing more is insinuated. Very tasteful. $10. Who knows what these deranged minds will come up with next?

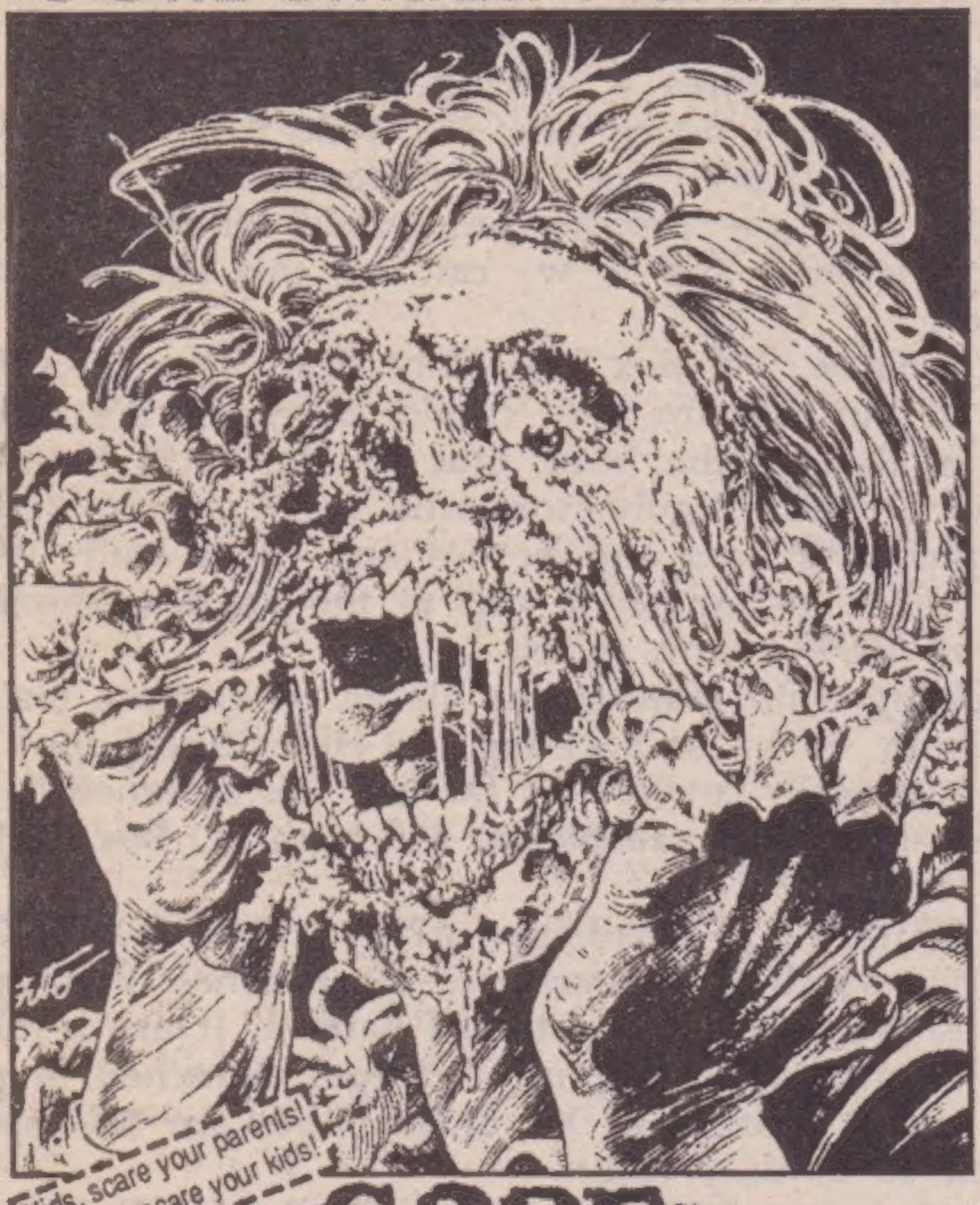
•**"Generations of Civilization"** t-shirt from **Graphic Relief** (c/o Irving Boykins, PO Box 1367, Chapel Hill, NC 27514) is a subtle statement shirt— a two-color, puff-ink screenprinted design of the African continent with the statement encircling in a colored border. It comes in either black with a red and green design, or red with a black and green design. T-shirts are 100% heavyweight pre-shrunk cotton ($12.00 ppd). Sweatshirts are 50/50% heavyweight ($20 ppd). Wear it and be heard. (CG)

•**Images of Global Peace** (PO Box 3151, Springfield, IL 62708) has t-shirts and bandannas available with the show logo—a dove with olive branch over a globe spreading on a flat surface, surrounded by the words "Images of Global Peace International Mail Art Show World Tour '90". The bandannas are $4 and shirts are $8, available in black, navy, red or purple.

•**Jesus Lives** is half the caption on the new shirt from III Publishing (PO Box 270363, San Francisco, CA 94117-0363). It's a followup to the Eccarius novel **CHRIST THE VAMPIRE**—the rest of the caption is "Vampires Never Die", and the picture shows a

## GORE SHRIEK T-SHIRT #1

COME S IN SIZES MEDIUM, LARGE AND EXTRA LARGE. AVAILABLE FOR $17.00 POST PAID IN THE U.S.

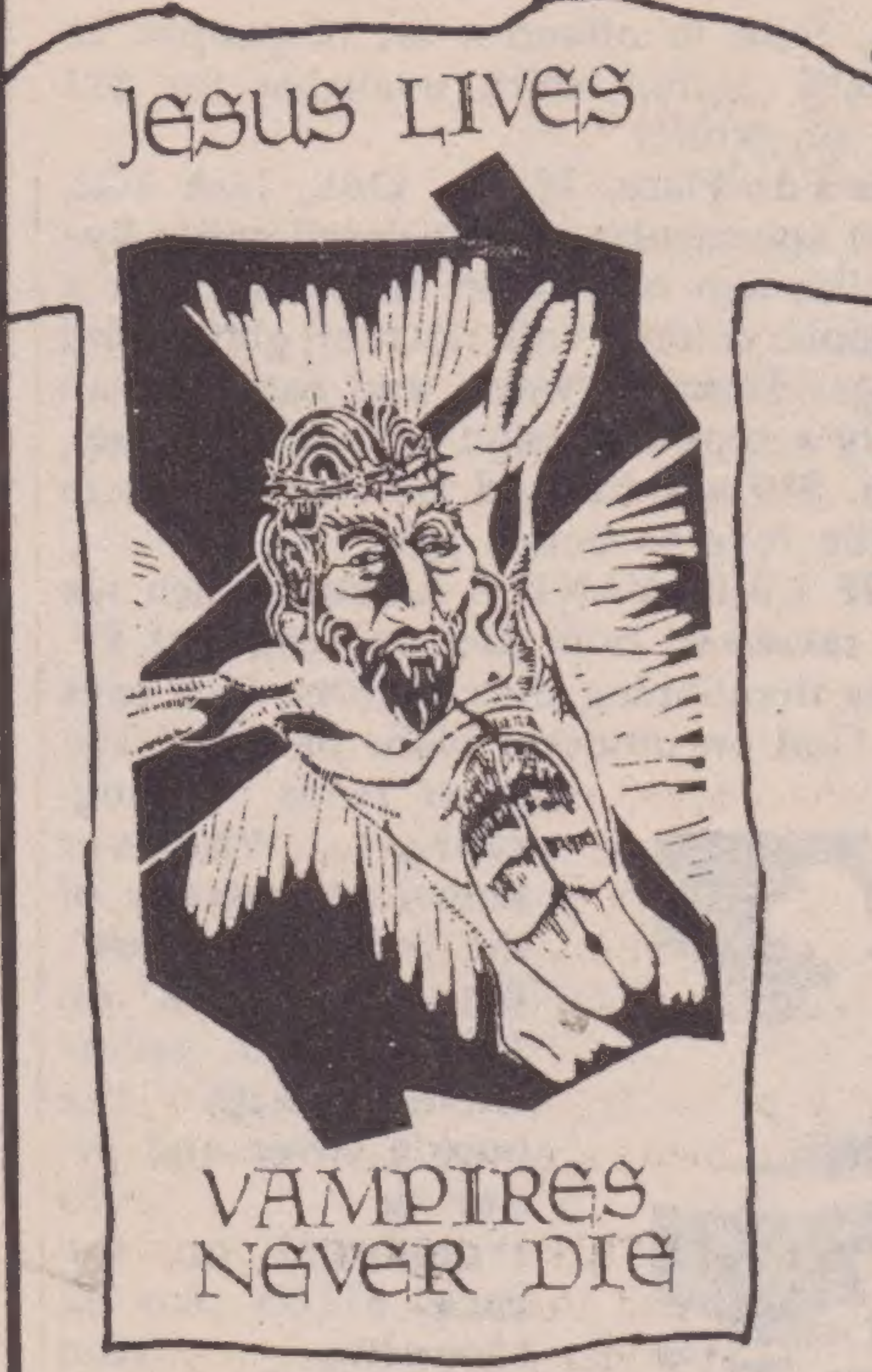

Kids, scare your parents!
Parents, scare your kids!

GORE SHRIEK™

**WARNING:**
Contains disturbing material and is not intended for children!

A BLACK T-SHIRT WITH THE INFAMOUS *SCREAMING* HEAD IN WHITE ON ONE SIDE & THE GORE SHRIEK LOGO & WARNING IN RED ON THE BACK SIDE!

**FantaCo Enterprises**, 21 Central Ave., Albany, N.Y. 12210
or call (518) 463-3667 with any major credit card.



**T-SHIRTS!**

**black on orange or**
**black on white**
**m,l,xl**

**$12 ppd.**

**(retailer inquiries welcome)**

**Outrageous Books!**

**THIS'LL KILL YA**
**by Harry Willson**

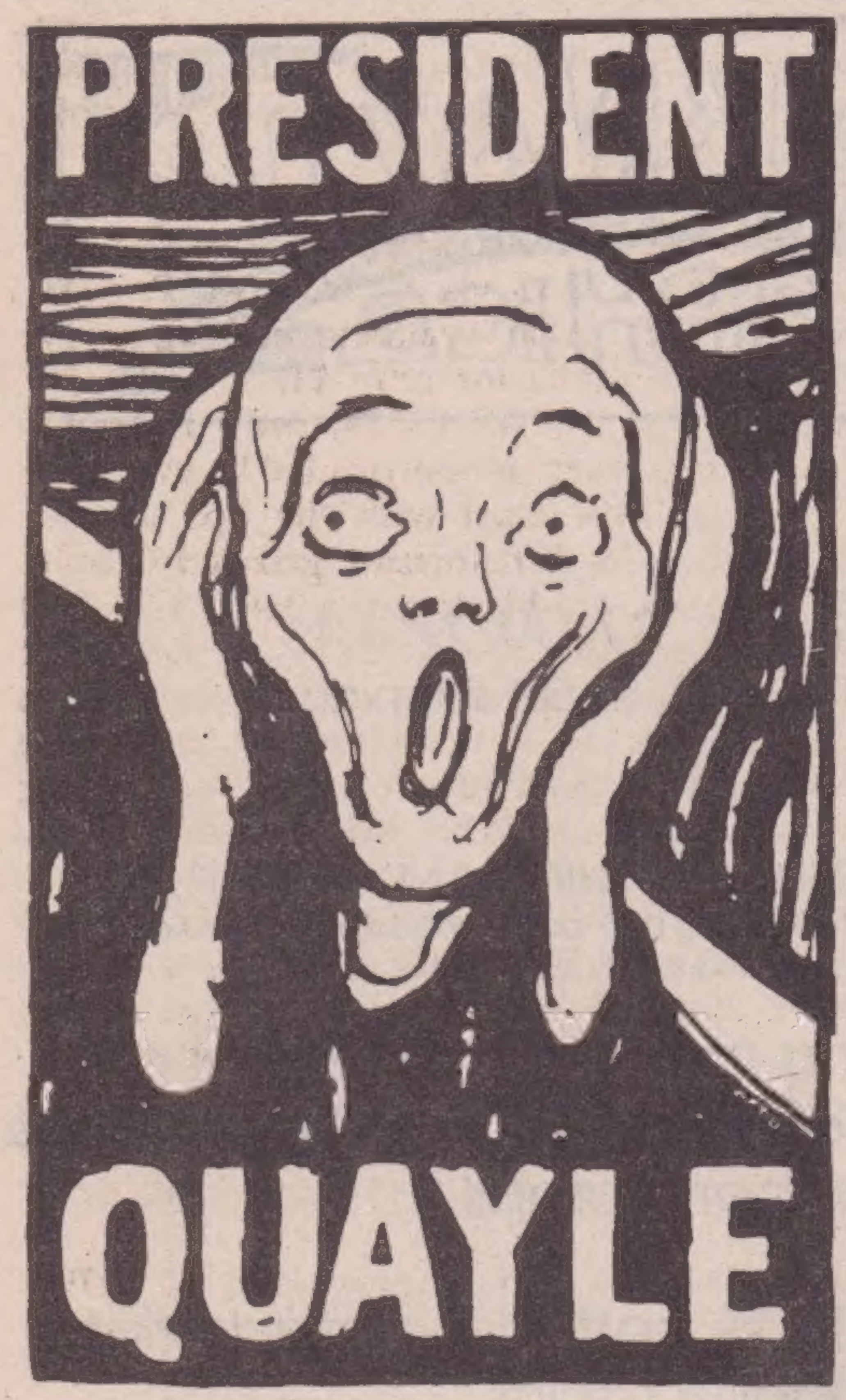
**There's something in the book to outrage everyone, ranging from a conjugation of the verb "to shit" and other anglo-saxon-isms to explicit sex, violence, and attacks on religion and science... No author I've read since John Steinbeck has written with such great love for the world, and such a profound sense of humor. -J.G. Eccarius**

**THE LAST DAYS OF CHRIST THE VAMPIRE by J.G. Eccarius**
**"Hilarious" - Anarchy**
**"Blasphemous" - Fifth Estate**

**WE SHOULD HAVE KILLED THE KING by J.G. Eccarius**
**"An interesting, chewy, different book" - Mike Gunderloy**

**All books pb, 192 pp, $7 ppd.**

**Please note our new address:**
**III Publishing**
**POB 170363**
**San Francisco, CA 94117-0363**

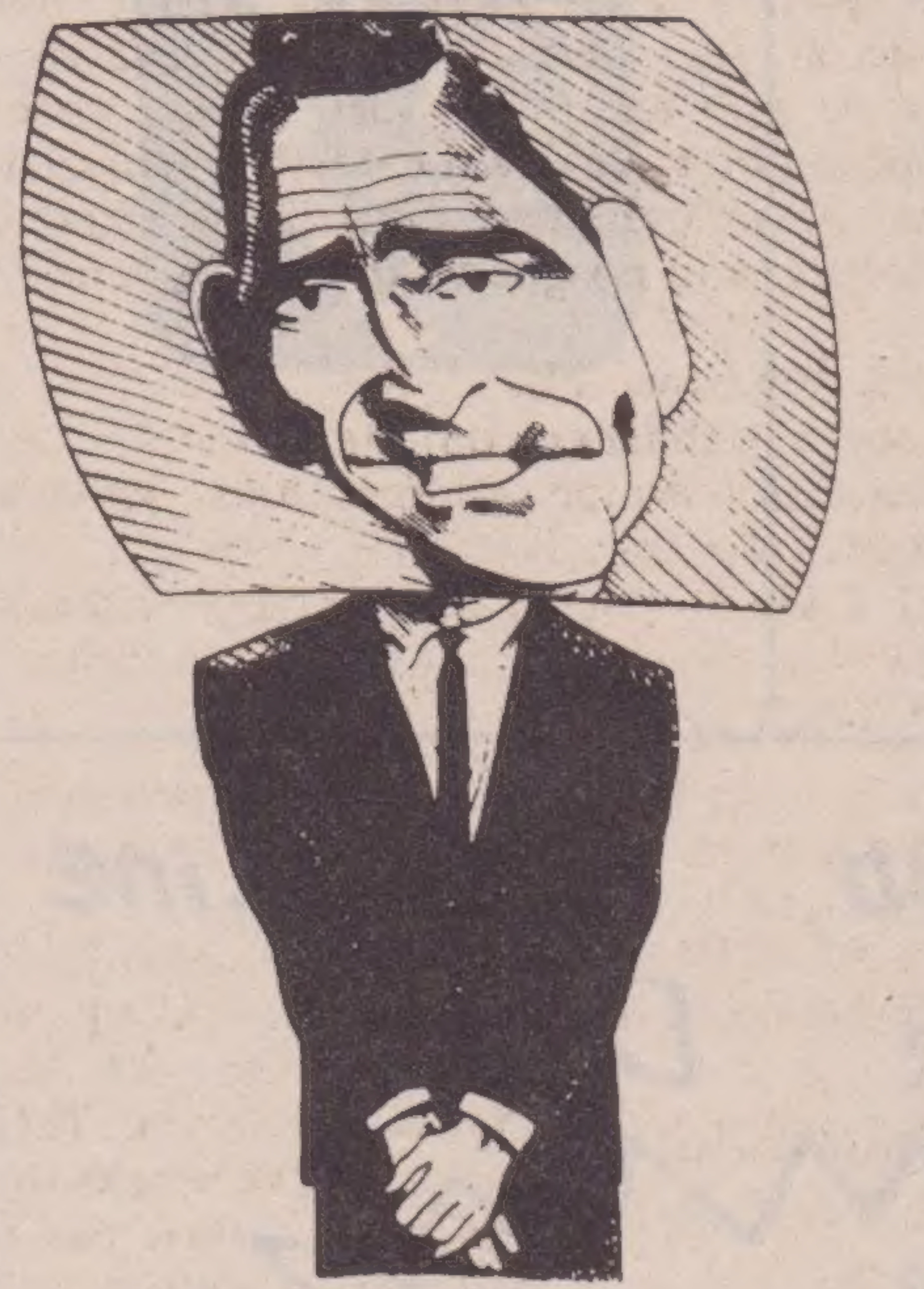


THE ORIGINAL!

I AM CURRENTLY SEEKING DEALERS INTERESTED IN SELLING THIS HANDPRINTED, COPYWRITTEN T-SHIRT. THE SHIRT SELLS ITSELF AND HAS BEEN VERY SUCESSFUL FOR MANY VENDORS. WHAT ABOUT YOURSELF???

image from "THE CRY" Edvard Munch
© 1988 PDQ Productions Washington, DC.
T SHIRTS available S M L XL $12.00
P.O. BOX 6864, ARLINGTON, VA. 22206-0864
DEALERS: DISCOUNTS FOR BULK QUANTITIES
DECALS - $1.00 - POSTCARDS - 60¢

# T-SHIRTS



Rod Serling,
Jack Kerouac,
Henry Miller,
Alfred Hitchcock,
Isadora Duncan,
Virginia Woolf,
Flannery O'Connor
Zora Neale Hurston,
Mary Shelley,
Raymond Chandler,
Franz Kafka,
Samuel Beckett,
Ezra Pound,
Richard Wagner
Gertrude Stein,
more

Original Steve Cragg caricatures on 100% cotton heavyweight T's. Size L or XL only. $14.95 postpaid. Catalog $1.00. VISA & MC accepted.

**SHIRTWERKS**
Box 16757, Dept F.
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
(919) 942-4485

Christ with fangs on the cross. Sure to offend a lot of people. In black ink on a red-orange 100% cotton shirt, available for $11 postpaid. (Also comes in black on white).

•**Kathy Macartney** (20 Silver Fox Place, Maple, Ont., L6A 1G2, CANADA) sent two of the most spectacular hand-painted shirts I've ever seen. One is a sort of Halloween or Kabuki face, the other a giant cat's face. Both are multiple colors, with lots of glitter and glow in the dark eyes and fangs. Stunning work, and each one an original, though you may specify a type of design from among cats, humanoids, monkeys or insects. $19 a shirt (and well worth it!), in S to XL, and including cute little toys as bonus gifts.

•**THE MORTAL WORDS OF J.B.R. YANT** is a book which we probably won't manage to get reviewed until the next issue of **FF**. However, we can give a hint by mentioning their t-shirts. One says "Life is a cruel joke played by God on innocent blobs of clay." The other reads "Pornography: Whatever arouses a majority of the Supreme Court". Both are black on 100% cotton yellow shirts, with the book's cover and ordering info reproduced on the back. $12.95 plus $2 shipping from Socratic Press, PO Box 66683, St. Petersburg Beach, FL 33736-6683.

SWAMP
NEW DESIGNS
S.A.S.E.
2118 GUADALUPE #216
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78705

•**Mutilation Graphics** sells all sorts of wild shirts, and they will send you their catalog if you send $1 and an Age Statement to them at 3765 Oriole Ct., Shrub Oak, NY 10588.

•**Peeny Weeny** features a stylized talking penis in a condom, saying "Remember to Practice 'safe' sex, folks!". You can get a copy in Large or XL black ink on a 100% cotton shirt, for $12 postpaid. (Um, er, note from the proofreader: would whoever sent us this shirt please send us a line so we can run this review again, with your address!)

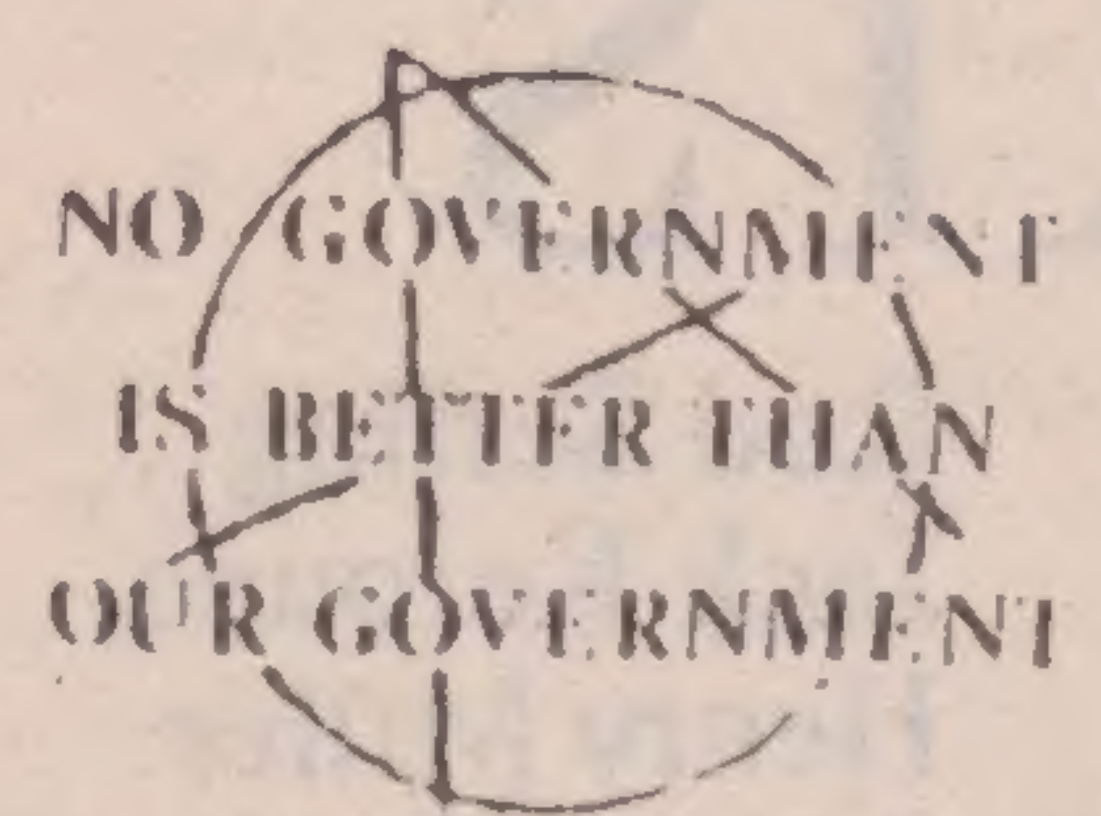
•**St.Ink** (P. Shaw, PO Box 234, Univ. Sta., Syracuse, NY 13210) sent a copy of the shirt for their comics zine, and it's as deranged as the zine is. Red on the front, blue on the back, both featuring this weird devil head Woolvertonesque *thing*, surrounded by fish and safety pins and bees and bottles and other stuff. Wear it to school and you're guaranteed a trip to the nearest counselor. $10 in XL only on 100% cotton shirts.

•**The Suckdog** tshirt features the album cover from their "Drugs Are Nice" album, with Lisa Suckdog and Helen Suckpuppy reclining half nude, strategically covered by flowers. It's screened in black on a white 50-50 shirt, and available for $10 from PO Box 1491, Dover, NH 03820.

•**Swamp Shirts** (2118 Guadelupe #216, Austin, TX 78705) has a new t-shirt out which is an oversized munificence of dayglo color. I can't wait to wear it the next time I babysit. It has a full-sized 2 ft. demon in earrings holding up a dagger drenched in pink and blue blood spurts. Comes in XL only. Shirts are $10 ppd. Make check payable to Lindsey Kuhn.

•**Tit Wrench** is one of the bands on Vinyl Communications, and also on their new t-shirt. It features the band name and logo front and back, with "Tit Wrench United/De-Pacify" around a globe on the back. Liable to get you a lot of nasty stares on the street, that's for sure. Shirts are 3 colors on a white all-cotton background, and are $8 each from Vinyl Communications at PO Box 8623, Chula Vista, CA 92012.

•**The T-Shirt of the Month Club** is still going strong. Here's the deal: you sign up for three months at a time (at a cost of $27) and



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5040
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every month Freddie Baer (PO Box 410151, San Francisco, CA 94141-0151) sends you a brand new, limited edition, all-cotton shirt. Don't send money immediately, because there's a waiting list, but if you're interested you should definitely drop her a line. You won't get my spot in the club, though, because I just renewed. Early October brought another Classical nude, this one looking vaguely disquieted in front of a background of gears and machinery. November's is something like "Animals at the Ball".

## GAMES

•**DEGREE** ($11 from Red Eye Games, PO Box 5916, Manchester, NH 03108): This is a new card game with its own dedicated deck. It's loosely based on student life, with the object being to accumulate credits during each "semester" and ultimately "graduate" and win. Along the ways there are plenty of problems to surmount, including Libido Attacks, Parties, and Tough Professors—the latter can be cured with a "Kiss Ass" card. It's designed for multi-player play, though it works with two. The 108 cards are well-made and attractive, though the dot-matrix art is a bit rough in places. If you mention **FF** and order before the end of March 1991, you can take $3 off the regular price.

•**RIFTS** ($24.95 from Palladium Books, 5926 Lonyo, Detroit, MI 48210): The latest role-playing game from the folks at Palladium, this one is set in an original futuristic world of magic, high-tech, dangerous inventions, feudal society, and doors into other dimensions ("Rifts"). It's based in a post-apocalypse world, where the past is mainly forgotten and the human race is on the ropes, surrounded by an assortment of monsters, mutants, demons and other forms of life. Though compatible with Palladium's other games, this one offers so many options that it should be for experienced RPG folks only. Selecting a player class alone, with options from cyborg to magical scholar to drug-assisted killing machine to dragon, is likely to take quite a while the first few times around.

Author Kevin Siembada and his crew have created a rich and detailed world here, fleshed out with histories, maps, and even some color drawings. Though I have a few minor quibbles (over such things as their continuing misportrayal of anarchism and their hysterical anti-drug stance [the latter understandable in a field, like RPG'ing, widely viewed with suspicion by the Establishment]), it's games like RIFTS that give me the itch to get out those mutli-sided dice and start generating adventures and finding players once again. (MG)

## ARTIFACTS

•**Art Strike Badges**, saying things like "Give Up Art" and "Demolish Serious Culture", are available from Mark Pawson (PO Box 664, London, E5 0JW, ENGLAND) for the ridiculously low price of $14 cash per 100 metal buttons.

•**Autopsy Trading Cards** ($3 from Julie Peasley, Dyslexic, PO Box 4763, Boulder, CO 80306): Just what the title says, a set of light cardstock pictures from autopsies. 27 images in all in low-res black and white, with a marked propensity for multiple lacerations and immensely traumatic injuries, plus a pair of bodies stuffed into trunks. Not for the light of heart.

•**Badges** with colorful little pictures—helicopters, space shuttles, revolutionary fists with strange texts, maps, faces and who knows what else—are avilable at 4 for £1 from Ben & Freda Allen, 1 Carnhill Avenue, Carnmoney, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim, N. IRELAND. For £1 you can also get four postcards with photos of a toy helicopter collection on them.

•**The Balcony of Ignorance 1991 Fridge Magnet** ($1 from Claude Bottom, 55A Centennial St., Seabrook, NH 03874) features a magnet on the back of a laminated mini-calendar (about the size of a business card) with an illustration of a somewhat space-case lady holding a crucified frog. The caption is "Henson Died For Your Sins".

•**Freedom Now Button Source** (PO Box 350, Malta, IL 60150) sells all sorts of 2 1/4" buttons for $1 each. They sent me a nice "Suffocate Exxon" one, and have a batch of others for peaceniks and other activists. They'll also do special orders. $1 should land you a catalog.

•**Night of the Living Dead Trading Cards** ($11.95 from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210-1391): Yup, a set of 68 trading cards featuring stills from the original movie, all packaged up neatly. The first few cards tell the basic story in synopsis on their backs. Lots of zombies here, as well as a few shots of the filming showing cameras and such. Probably best if you remember the original vividly.

•**No More Art Guilt** (c/o Mela Alexian, PO Box 1387, Bloomington, IN 47402) will send you a nice badge with that slogan and "No Lessons/No Talent" for $1. They propose an alternative to gallery madness: "A side street for the Underground, where art need not be censored by fear of 'fine arts' snobbery, the PMRC, *or* the 'alternative' demand for ugliness." Comes with a manifesto.

•**The Ritual Object of the Church of Tina Chopp** ($5 aluminum or $10 bronze from PO Box 1914, Bellingham, WA 98227-1914) comes with a small booklet explaining the use and symbolism of this odd little bit of metal. It looks potentially useful in sacrificing the holy vegetable. Certainly a unique and rare item.

## MICROFICHE

•Theodore Schroeder, **FREE SPEECH FOR RADICALS** ($3.50 from Richard Gaska, 2024 N. Manor Drive, Erie, PA 16505): For your money, you receive a diazo copy of the enlarged edition of this pamphlet, published in 1916 by the Free Speech League, which was incorporated in Albany, N.Y., in 1911, to promote free speech through "all lawful means." Theodore Schroeder, attorney for the League, examines the topic of free speech by republishing a number of his essays on the topics. He looks at a few free speech fights of the time, at freedom of the press, the concept of obscenity, and much more. Although Schroeder's style of writing is dated, the fervor of his ideas is still strong. It's important to look back at documents like this and see how little the discussion has changed and just how much progress has been made this century. Richard Gaska also has available other micropublished titles of Libertarian interest. (3 microfiche)(reviewed by Geof Huth)

•**Images of Global Peace** ($3.50 from PO Box 3131, Springfield, IL 62708):This microfiche compilation reproduces a small but probably representative sample of the mailart show Images of Global Peace, currently on world tour, which attracted over 200 artists from 34 countries. The contributors include famous names in the international network of mailart, visual poetry and xerox art, including Guy Bleus of Belgium, Clemente Padin of Uruguay, Ryosuke Cohen of Japan, and some exceptional work from the British mailart node, A 1 Waste Paper, and an American couterpart Dadata. Along with a table of contents (quite a boon) and a roster of all the participants, Images of Global Peace includes information about other projects: the International Shadow Project, an annual anti-nuclear mailart project; PeaceNet, an international computer network of peace activists and organizations; along with a notice of Mark Bloch's Word Strike for 1991-93 (during which we should say "art" only if we mean "money") and the first fiche ad I've ever seen for Factsheet Five. The curator of the show and compiler of the magazine, Brian Kasher, encourages people to print and post copies from the fiche. A good networking source for those people interested in peace movements and mailart, this microzine appears to the naked eye as the soothing milky-blue of vesicular film. (1 microfiche/review by Geof Huth)

## SOFTWARE

•I will review IBM-PC compatible software personally, and have reviewers for MacIntosh, Amiga, Apple II and Adam software, so if you know of any interesting programs for these machines, please put them in touch with FF.

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We've fallen behind on reviewing shareware, a condition which should be corrected with the next issue. Honest. Well, we're trying.

Where programs are written by a member of the Association of Shareware Professionals we've made a special note in these reviews. The ASP is a group of shareware authors who adhere to minimum standards, including good documentation, non-crippled programs, user support and participation in the ASP's problem-mediation service. Watch for the [ASP] after reviews.

For more information on shareware, check out the book review of Rob Rosenberger's **SHAREWARE** in **FACTSHEET FIVE #37**.

•**ALPHAQUOTE** Version 2.1 (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registered version $29 from AlphaBytes, 111 8th St. SE, Washington, DC 20003): A small program intended for typesetting job shops, though it can also be of use to those of us doing our own typesetting via desktop publishing. Its primary purpose is to estimate the cost of a job. You give the program your hourly rates, the length of the piece, the dimensions and point size of the final product, and so on, and it will compute and print out a finished estimate for you. The prompts are easy to follow and the on-line help is superb; I only needed the manual to figure out which of the two executable programs on the diskette I wanted to run (the other suggests hourly rates based on your area and specialty). Alphaquote is also useful for copyfitting; if you can judge the density of your pages and know how many columns of what sort of type you'll be using, it will give you fast accurate pagecounts. (IBM)[ASP]

•**BOOK OF CHANGES** (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registered version $24 from R.K. West Consulting, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346): A computerized version of the I Ching, complete with interpretations of the hexagrams. As with all programs from West, installation is simple and the prompts are well done. The program will ask for a question, then simulate tossing the coins, using the yarrow stalks, or just pick random hexagrams itself. Then you can view the interpretation for each hexagram and each line, switching back and forth as you will, and adding your own notes to the files. Ancient wisdom in a new package. (IBM)[ASP]

•**HDM IV** Version 2.7 (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registered version $50 from MicroFox, PO Box 447, Richfield, OH 44286-0447) was reviewed in **FF**36; I just want to report here that they have sent us a copy of their latest version (2.7), now available on the **FF** BBS. It includes enhanced support for color monitors, including EGA and VGA and several new functions to make this premiere hard disk menuing system even better. They also distribute AHELP13, an advanced help utility for those working with Clipper (shareware, registration $50) and a selection of freeware utilities as MICROFOX.ZIP, both also available on the BBS. (IBM)[ASP]

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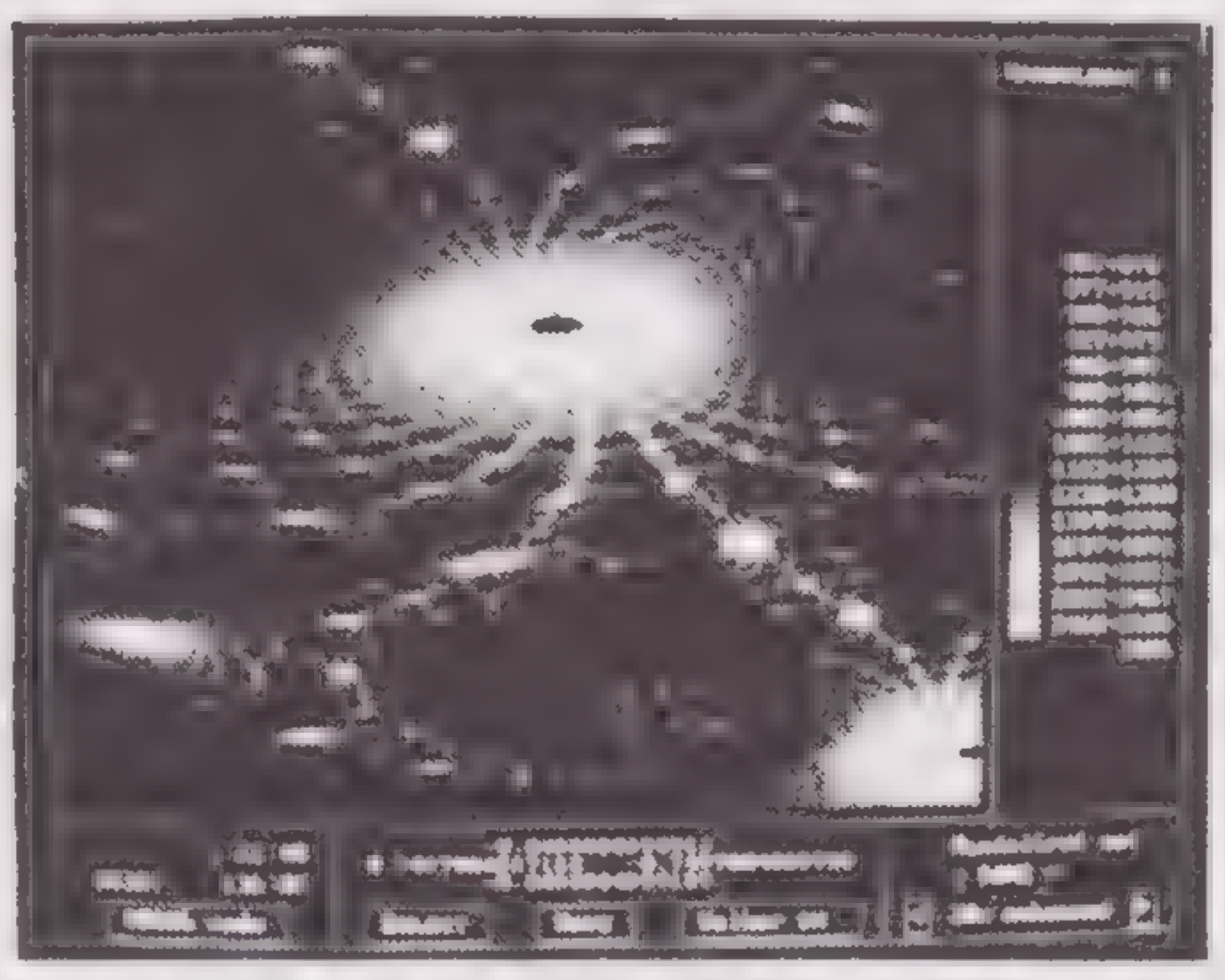

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(Mr G said nice things about it in FS5 #36 and in an upcoming **Whole Earth Review**, too.)

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•**MOVIE MAESTRO** (Contact Cameron Computing, 2922 Woodside Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32312): This is a specialized database for the lover of movies. It comes with a built-in database of Oscar winners from 1928 through 1989, a little over 500 movies in all, listing title, year, stars, composer, director, awards, description and more. Easy menus (with on-line help and an optional expert mode) take you through finding what you want here, whether it be the picture that won Best Actor the year you were born or all movies with Bogart and Hepburn in them. You can also add your own movies to the collection, and it's set up with the home-taper in mind; if you enter the time on each, you can get a list of which tapes you have with time left to record something new. The screens are colorful and the processing is fast. The package comes with both 5 1/4" and 3 1/2" disks, a typeset manual that is well done, and a quick reference card. I found very few drawbacks—there doesn't seem to be any easy way to do an "or" search, and it does take up about 3 megabytes of hard disk space right off the bat. I don't imagine this will bother the true cinemaphile at all. (IBM)

•**PC-DEAL** (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registered version $40 from Kindred Spirits, RFD 2, Box 291, Waldoboro, ME 04572): "DEAL" in this case stands for "Double Entry Accounting Ledge", and this is another small business accounting program for your PC. This one is fast and versatile, with lots of thoughtful little touches—a toggle to switch from Credit/Debit to From/To, for example (though some basic accounting knowledge will definitely still help). It does monthly budgeting and variance reports (in fact, it does *lots* of different reports—more than any other accounting package we've reviewed), features an account entry screen that lets you view multiple accounts at one time, and will create bar graphs of your cash flow and other useful things. You can edit transactions from a year ago or set a software switch to limit this feature (I am not sure that this will satisfy the IRS on keeping a proper "paper trail", but it's a step in the right direction). Reports can be scrolled, there's an account reconciliation function, and the data can be exported in database or spreadsheet formats, as well as plain text. A well-implemented and well-proofed package. (IBM)[ASP]

•**PERUSE** Version 1.00 ($11 from Falk Data Systems, 5322 Rockwood Ct., El Paso, TX 79932; also on **FF** BBS): This is a neat little DOS file reader that can handle both ASCII and binary files of, apparently, any size at all (at least it didn't choke on the ones I threw at it), and easily loads multiple files at once. It switches easily between these views, as well as to 43- and 50-line views on EGA or VGA screens. It's completely color customizable (among other user options). It can be loaded as a TSR program, swapping out to EMS or XMS memory, and pop up over other programs, and shell out to DOS once popped up. The whole thing is controlled by either mouse or keyboard, with an intuitive hypertext help system. In short, this is an excellent program—and, amazingly enough, it's freeware (the $10 if you order it direct is just to cover costs; if you get it from a BBS, you can use it without registering). A nifty little program from a good shareware producer. (IBM)[ASP]

•**SOFF BALLS** Version 2.3 (Shareware on **FF** BBS; registered version $25 from Jeffrey Elwood, 2809 Lordshire Rd., Madison, WI 53719): A specialized database program with one purpose: keeping track of softball and baseball statistics. It can handle up to 20 teams with 40 players on each team and 9999 at-bats (two to three hundred games) in a single database. It keeps track of records, tournaments, RBIs, at-bats, percent won and lost, and more. Naturally, you have to put all this in, but once you do the basic data entry you're saved from a lot of tedious number-crunching. The interface is acceptable, with a nice color-setting facility and a monochrome mode; points off for not supporting the arrow keys for making menu selections, though. (IBM)[ASP]

•Much of the software reviewed in **FF** is available for downloading on the **FF** BBS (518-479-3879, 3/12/2400 baud, 24 hours). There are also a bunch of companies out there who sell shareware for a couple of bucks per disk. Some that have sent me catalogs recently include:

**PC-SIG** (1030-D E. Duane Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086) maintains a large library with many of the most popular programs and also publishes **SHAREWARE** magazine. Members get a $2 discount on disks ordered from PC-SIG. **Shareware Elite** (25 Cades Parc, Helston, Cornwall, TR13 8QS) is the only distributor in the British Isles that I have heard from directly. They sent us the September update to their nifty hypertext catalog on a 3 1/2" diskette, with descriptions of 700+ titles, graphic screens from new additions to their library, a list of popular disks and much more. Fun to play with, and a nice reference on the state of Shareware. Others report that **Softcell Services** (9 Wells Road, Riverside, Cardiff, CF1 8DW) and **Software Link** (5a Manchester Road, Denton, Manchester M34 3JU) are good to deal with. **Shareware Express** (27601 Forbes Rd. #37, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677), a company that marks programs down from $4.95 to $2.95 for special sales, and takes orders toll-free at 800-346-2842. **Sizzleware** (PO Box 6429, Lake Charles, LA 70606), a shareware distributor with a reasonably good stock and a price of $1.99 per diskette plus shipping. If you write they might send you a catalog.

## IMPORTANT EVENTS

•**Community Capital Bank** (111 Livingston St., Brooklyn, NY) will be holding an open house some time in January to acquaint people with this new bank dedicated to putting dollars to work in community development. For more info call 718-802-1212.

•The 1991 **Adult Video News Awards Show** will take place January 12, 1991, at the Tropicana in Las Vegas. $115 per person, with the profits going to the Adult Video Association Legal Fund. For more information, write to 8600 West Chester Pike #300, Upper Darby, PA 19082.

•The first **Foothill Writers Conference** will take place January 25-27, 1991 in Shelby, North Carolina. With events for both professional and aspiring writers, it will include a number of editors and ideas on marketing your work. The cost is $75. For more information contact Foothill Writers Conference, PO Box 67, Mooresboro, NC 28114.

•The **Southeast Music Conference** is happening February 15-17, 1991, in Tampa, Florida. For more information write them at 12111 N. 56th St., Tampa, FL 33617 or call 813-989-1472.

•A national **Lesbian Conference** will take place April 24-28, 1991. The national planning office may be reached at PO Box 3057, Albany, NY 12203 or call (518)-463-1051; the conference itself will take place in Atlanta.

•**Corflu 8**, the convention for SF fanzine fans, will be held May 3-5, 1991 in El Paso, Texas. Attending memberships are $35. Contact Richard Brandt, 4740 N. Mesa #111, El Paso, TX; (915)-542-0443 for more information.

•**VOLGA-CON** is a science fiction convention being organized by the SF Club "The Wind of Time" in the USSR. It will take place September 8-14, 1991. For more information, write to Boris A. Zavgorodny, Volgograd-66, Central Post Office, Poste Restante, USSR.

•A **Third Continental Congress** has been called for July 3-5, 1992, to return the Federal government to its Constitutionally limited form, For more information write to the Continental Congress Organizing Committee, PO Box 1257, Escondido, CA92033-1257.

•If you're interested in a pagan events, you should subscribe to Larry Cornett's calendar of festivals, gatherings, and so on. $4 per year from 9527 Blake Ln. #102, Fairfax, VA 22031.

## MAIL ART

•**ATX** (Steven J. Brooks, PO Box 2507, Cambridge, MA 02238-2507) sent a postcard with a piece of colorable art on one side and an explanation on the other. You can get on the mailing list by paying costs; 25¢ for this item.

•**Charles Bernstein** (PO Box 5008, Evanston, IL 60204-5008) is working on an art/poetry project and wants "labels from products (ie soup cans, vegetable/peanut butter/jam/jelly jars, etc), unusual graphics, ticket stubs from movies or concerts, old bus/train/street-car/airport transfers or passes, receipts, cigarette/cigar butts or anything that was used for a few moments/minutes/hours and I'm not really looking to get used condoms or tampons or things of that nature!"

•**Brain Cell** (Ryosuke Cohen, 3-76-1-A-613, Yagumokitacho, Moriguchi-City, Osaka 570, JAPAN is still at it with his multi-colored rubber stamp and sticker posters featuring mail artists from around the world. To become a participant, simply send your own rubber stamp, or 150 identical stickers, and wait for the poster of results.

•**Paul Dion** (24 Main St., S. Grafton, MA 01560) continues to issue absurd and strange play money "tickets" at every opportunity. He'll swap for most anything interesting. If you're computerized, try the associated GraftoGraphic BBS at 508-798-8165.

•**Ed's Pregnant Yak Service** (PO Box 127, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522-0127) sends out bizarre postcards suggesting you "adopt a yak" at very little prompting. Also at this address is the Bulgarian Yak Society, which is interested in swapping mail art for inflatable unicorns for an ongoing project.

•**Ehel** (490 Westminster, D.D.O., Quebec, H9G 1E5, CANADA) has four postcards with wild discordian psychedelic drawings on them that are for swapping with other "twisted" mail art mongers.

•**A. Franza** (254 River Dr., Moriches, NY 11955) sends the occasional photocopied poster. The last one, featuring George Bush, has mildly scatological connotations if you're not careful.

•**FROM THE JAM REPUBLIK...** ($2 from Chris Laursen, General Delivery, Tofield, AB, T0B 4J0, CANADA) is a monthly mail art apa. Send 100 copies of your one-sided art and get a copy of the final collection back. Deadline is January 5, 1991 for #1; theme is open.

•**Funmare Ink.** (Donna Han, 627 Taylor St. #21, San Francisco, CA 94102) sent a hand-done collage original in a handmade envelope. Quite well done.

•**afungusboy** (PO Box 134, Brockport, NY 14420) sends out strange collage postcards marked "Reply/Exchange?" at the bottom.

•**Roland Gallahan** (120 Lowell St., Richmond, VA 23223) sent a postcard with a picture made up of glitter. Personally, I hate glitter, but I'm sure some people find it rather charming.

•**Images of Global Peace** is working on a "Mail-Artumentary"; to be out on 3/4" video some time in January. They're seeking contacts to host the show on public access TV. Contact them at PO Box 3151, Springfield, IL 62708.

•**Inner Eye Inner Ear** is a mail art project, any size, any media, no rejections, no returns, with a deadline of 2/91. Send to C.W. Poste, 4308 Greenwood Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98103.

•**The Institute For Paranormal Research** (Cynde Moya, 513 Wilshire #204, Santa Monica, CA 90401) is offering free postcard photos of either a quilt or the same quilt with Cynde's mom's dog on it, for a request with a nice letter. Or maybe some other photo entirely, depending on how the supply holds out. Anyhow, she says they're all nice pictures.

•**Junk Mail** — the practice of swapping envelopes full of who knows what—continues to be on the upswing. Here's a few participants who will send you theirs if you send them yours:

**5 IN 1** (c/o Shane Archer, 7 Creek Rd., Camp Hill, PA 17011) sent an envelope with religious propaganda, business cards, animal rights stuff, a cologne sample, and other goodies from the mass culture.

**Flounder** (1409 Lennox, Anderson, IN 46012) sent an envelope with sketches, stickers, a business card and some other flotsam.

**Jim Fortney** (L3 Sand Spring, Schnecksville, PA 18078) will swap photos (both b&w and color( and other images and art.

**Jon Martin** (60C Skiff St. #489, Hamden, CT 06514) is interested in swapping photos and other stuff.

**Brian Of** (9004B Quail Valley Dr., Austin, TX 78758) whose latest envelope contained a chain letter, photos, stickers, a packet of salt, business cards and other goodies.

**Shark Art** (150 Degraw St. #3R, Brooklyn, NY 11231) sends along business cards, fabric, rubber stampings, and a colorful teabag package as part of their latest mailing.

**John Smurfburger** (PO Box 134, Waynesville, MO 65883) says he is especially interested in swapping with "celibates, altruists and handicapped people."

**Graham Trievel** (Box 481, Rt. 113, Lionville, PA 19353) sent his junk in a clear plastic envelope this time. Of course, this meant that the stamp fell off and I had to pay postage due to get it, but it was still an innovative idea.

**Twist-o-Gram** (1661 Connecticut Dr., Redwood City, CA 94061) runs to paper money specimens, claim checks, and little pamphlets. Available for a 50¢ SASE or to swap with other junk mail.

✓ **Elizabeth Wilding-White** (3121 N. Kenmore Bsmt., Chicago, IL 60657) wants to swap postcards, toys, and stickers.

•**Pig Havok** (Box 32, 52 Call Lane, Leeds LS1 6DT, UK) has put out a couple of small collage posters of resistance to industrial civilization. They're "free, BUT A TRADE WOULD BE DAMN GOOD".

•**Ruggero Maggi** (C.so Sempione 67, 20149 Milano, ITALY) is a continuing source of mail art. Political posters, stickers, defaced money, and other strange things emanate from him on a regular basis.

•**Mailart in the Streets** (M. Northam, 5325 W. Jackson, Indianapolis, IN 46241) is a continuing project. Send at least ten copies of your poster, including your address, and they will be posted in the city of Indianapolis, with documentation of reactions attempted.

•**Malok** (PO Box 41, Waukau, WI 54980) puts out all manner of letters, collages, photos, music, sculpture, you name it, to those on his list who he feels deserve it, I guess. His output lately seems to have been very high, so it's a good time to get in touch.

•**MAYBE MAILART** is a single sheet listing a couple of dozen mail art projects with applicable addresses and information. 25¢ from C. Schneck, 749 Niagara Ave., San Francisco, CA 94112-2448; and send info on your own projects for inclusion.

•**Mike Film** (PO Box 382, Baltimore, MD 21203) is an ongoing project from tentatively, a convenience. He's slowly distributing tens of thousands of frames of old movie film, the last remnants of some of his art projects, around the world. If you send a request, he'll send you some frames; all you need to do to stay on the list is document your usage of them.

•**MODOM 7** ($1 from Jake Berry, PO Box 3112, Florence, AL 35630) is the latest art object from Jake, a small abstract painting on some heavy-duty textured paper.

•**OBSCENE FUNERAL ANGELS** (118 E. Goodheart Ave., Lake Mary, FL 32746) is a microzine of mail art, a matchbox full of stuff: stickers, little drawings, a plastic head, and more goodies. I suspect a trade is the best way to get on the list.

•**POST TONGA DADA BEAT** (Jerry Tonga, 58 N. Columbus Ave., Mt. Vernon, NY 10533) is looking for new dada inspired collage or writing for a new mail art minizine.

•**The Rubber Stamp Exchange** is a continuing project of the A.1. Waste Paper Company (71, Lambeth Walk, London SE11 6DX, ENGLAND). Send your old stamps and get new ones in return.

•Weird stuff continues to emanate from **Michael Voodoo** (PO Box 12461, Lake Park, FL 33403), now including snazzy business cards to go along with his disturbing and enigmatic collages.

## OTHER NEWS

•**ABC/NYC** is a postcard starting with "A is for Art and AIDS" and ending with "Z is for Zzzyrmidgeon, the last name in the phone book". Two for 25¢ & a stamp from David Hunter, 252 9th St., Brooklyn, NY 11215.

•**Afterlife Insurance** Policies , with plenty of fine print and a grinning reaper, are available for $1 from Robert Hudson, 19 Glen Ave., Troy, NY 12180. He'll also throw in a sample Federal Yak Note for that price. Silly stuff.

•**The Anarchist Game** is the latest postcard series from Donald F. Busky (7393 Rugby St., Philadelphia, PA 19138-1236), consisting of a series of anarchist trivia questions. I don't know what you have to do to get on the mailing list. Or off it.

•**Animal Town** (PO Box 485, Healdsburg, CA 95448) sells a variety of cooperative games and associated stuff. They're probably big enough to send a catalog on request.

•**Behind the Walls** (PO Box 4167, Halfmoon, NY 12065) has a mailing list available of 360 addresses of groups and publications into prison support and related activities. $15 on plain paper, set up to be copied on to mailing labels.

•**Bound Together Books** (1369 Haight St., San Francisco, CA 94117) has had a problem with windows being broken, A big problem. About four thousand bucks worth. Presumably this is being done by people who don't think an anarchist bookstore should be allowed to exist in the Haight. If you disagree, you should send a contribution to their window fund.

•**The Church of Don** is a nasty parody of the Church of the SubGenius, offering to take the Bobbies up on it the next time they scream "Or Kill Me!". A pretty funny in-joke. Intro pamphlet $1 from Janor Hypercleats, 422 1/2 S. Martin, Little Rock, AR 72205.

•**CONCERTINA & SQUEEZEBOX** (PO Box 2343, Bellingham, WA 98227) has suffered a publication delay due to a disastrous fire which destroyed the back issues, the issue in preparation, the mailing list, the editor's instrument collection, the computer used to produce the zine, and lots else. With the aid of off-site backups, it is going to continue coming out. However, if you wrote or subscribed between July and November, please get in touch again, since the most current mail was lost. And if you've got a few spare bucks, this would be a good cause to send them to in the fanzine community. You can even make a tax-deductible contribution by sending it to The Institute For Traditional Studies, PO Box 1732, Mendocino, CA 95460—make checks payable to the Institute but note that it's for the C&S Fire Fund on the check.

•The **Constitutional Freedom Committee** (PO Box 157, Linwood, J 08221-0157) offers a sheet of 22 epigrams on self-adhesive labels for the sum of o2.00 *CASH*. They say things like "I can measure the motions of bodies but I cannot measure human folly" (Isaac Newton) or talk about liberty and government tyranny.

•The **Crusade to Abolish Traffic Tickets** may be reached at PO Box 15133, Honolulu, HI 96830. They're trying to reach their objective by having everyone plead to charges, so clogging the court system that the government has to revamp things.

•**The Daniel DeLeon Election Committee** (PO Box 362, Newaygo, MI 49337) will send you information on socialism and industrial unionism for the asking.

•**DHARMA COMBAT** (PO Box 20593, Sun Valley, NV 89433) has been delayed by real life problems, but you can get a reprint volume of the first 9 issues, over 500 pages, for $20.

•**The Dream Exchange** (Richard DeVaney, P.S.C. #3798, Loring AFB, ME 04751) is a continuing project to swap reports of dreams. To participate, simply send an account of your own dreams, or an SASE if you don't have any dreams to share.

•**DRIFT DISTRIBUTION** (83 Warren St. #5, New York, NY 10007-1057) are my new heroes for their noble pursuit of distributing non-mainstream films and videos, with a roster that resembles a cinematic FF. Each video in the catalog has a page with a photo, a review and rental/sale info. I only wish there were more films in the catalog, although there are plenty indeed. Some film makers include Steve Fagin, Leslie Thornton, and Julie Zando. No price was listed for the catalog, but I'd send about a buck-fifty for it. (CG)

•**Dr. Prune Productions** (5125 SW Scholls Ferry Rd. #70, Portland, OR 97225) has out all sorts of weird op-art cards, suitable for sending or even framing. $1.50 for a sample, or $5 for 5 different cards.

•**Earth Care Paper** (PO Box 7070, Madison, WI 53707) has their Fall/Winter catalog of recycled paper products out and available for a buck. Among other things, I note that they now have large envelopes and spiral notebooks available.

•You can join the **Fenderson** Family just by saying so. For more information on what good this does, write to Graham Fenderson Trievel, Box 481, Route 113, Lionville, PA 19353.

•**FOLIO #1** ($25 from John C. Gernon, PO Box 284, Watervliet, NY 12189) is a set of five dry-point etching prints from the artist's fascination with death and darkness. Powerfully nasty stuff, limited to fifteen sets carefully packaged.

•**GASAMERICA** zine—from the Gong Association Society, devoted to that strange and wonderful band sound—has been re-issued in a slightly different format at a new price of $2. See the last issue for the review, or just write to Craig Mitchell, 1230 20th St., Huntsburg, TX 77340.

•**HANUSSEN**, "Europe's greatest prophet," will send you a fat free package of hype more shameless and dubious than the the SubG Church's finest: they mean to sell you, for $95, a magnetic amulet, the "Dracomagnet." Bumpf includes a floppy record of a hypnotised zombie testifying how it changed her life and medical practice. Most folks have to be drunk and horny to come on this crudely. Quite amusing. On request from Hanussen International Office, PO Box 14946, Las Vegas, NV 89114-4946. (JR)

•**The Hospitality Exchange** (Lee Glickstein & Joy-Lily, 116 Coleridge St., San Francisco, CA 94110) is a service for people who travel. Members agree to swap lodging and are listed in a series of annual directories. It's a good way to find low-cost places to crash all over. $15 a year, or write for more info. •**The Institute of Absurdity** (236 W. Portal #170, San Francisco, CA 94127) brings together performance art and ancient Greek philosophy to entertain while seriously confronting modern problems. A recent series of performances, for example, dealt with getting men and women back together through the mechanism of poetry. Write 'em for details, especially if you're going to be in their area.

•**Laugh In The Dark Rubber Stamp Works** (PO Box 603356, Cleveland, OH 44103) has hundreds of rubber stamps in stock for $3 to $35. You can get an entire Hebrew alphabet, a few cupids, a draftsman quitting his job in a most graphic manner, a goat on the rampage, racing greyhounds, mermaids, magicians or a ton of other things here. A buck or so for the catalog.

•**The League for Programming Freedom** (1 Kendall Sq. #143, PO Box 9171, Cambridge, MA 02139) is an organization fighting patents and copyrights on the "look and feel" of software and other ludicrous legal claims now invading the field. Write for more information.

•**J. LeRoy** has 11"x17" anti-war posters, captioned "I Regret That I Have Only One Life To Give for a Gallon of Super Unleaded", available at ten for a buck. Send to PO Box 95984, Seattle, WA 98145-2984.

•**"Let Me Help Your Wife Get Rid of Her Headaches"** is the slogan on a promo bumpersticker for **THE MORTAL WORDS OF J.B.R. YANT**, a book we shall be reviewing in the next issue. $3.50 for the sticker from Socratic Press, PO Box 66683, St. Petersburg Beach, FL 33736-6683.

•The 1991 **Louisiana Catalog**, full of Louisiana merchandise from preserved crawfish to maps to books by Louisiana authors, is out. Copies are $2 from Cote Blanche Productions, Route 3 Box 614, Cut Off, LA 70345.

•**Malice Aforethought Press** (328 Brettenham Road, London E17 5AU, ENGLAND) will send you a copy of their catalog of exceedingly off booklets for an IRC.

•**Tyrone McCloskey** (PO Box 210107, San Francisco, CA 94121-0107), the creator of Ralston the Goose and other outrageous cartoon characters, has got three 11x17 posters out. Two of them ("Flood" and "Six Dammit") remind me of Peter Max or John Sevcik, though not quite as busy; a definite psychedelic ambience. The third, "J. Edgar", is an obscene portrayal of American justice. Specifiy hand-colored or black and white copies.

•**MEDIA-TORS** (c/o Sensoria from Censorium, Box 147 Stn. J, Toronto, ONT, M4J 4X8, CANADA) are a series of fluorescent stickers designed for use in everyday consumer applications. Surely you know somewhere you could stick the message "Imagine LIFE Without This", for example. Samples for $2.

•**The Minot Childbirth Information Project** (PO Box 3154, Minot, ND 58702) offers a brochure "Just Say No", which presents the medical arguments against making mothers give birth in a supine position. For $2 you can get a copy of the pamphlet plus either a button or a bumper sticker with a graphic making the point clear.

•**S. Minstreal** (730 Chicago Blvd., San Antonio, TX 78210-5110) wants to trade "art, correspondence, zines, comics, stamps, googaws".

•"**MIRACLES** Looking for documentation of miracles seen, heard or felt. Please send to Aimee, 906B Post Oak St., Austin, TX 78704. There is no deadline for this action. Thank God."

•**Mother Hart** (PO Box 4229, Boynton Beach, FL 33424-4229) sell all variety of natural bedding, cotton shower curtains, Chinese slippers, down comforters, and so on. You can get their current catalog for a buck.

•**NEW LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE** (PO Box 41, MIT Branch, Cambridge, MA 02139) has issued their first packet of material for the alternative and student press. If your paper is interested in becoming part of this organization, write or call them at 617-253-0399.

•**New York City Snowglobes** are available from Laurie Shapiro (473 FDR Dr., New York, NY 10002) but *only* to people who are willing to end her one from their own city of residence.

•An update to the list of addresses for authors of the experimental collage book **NOVEL APPROACH** may be obtained for an SASE from Plaster Cramp Press at PO Box 5975, Chicago, IL 60680-5975.

•**Panscan** is a mail-art and other stuff discussion area on the Echo computer conferencing system run by **FF** staffer Mark Bloch. To join Echo, have your modem call 212-989-8411 and sign in as NEWUSER.

•**Presiozi Postcards** (PO Box 498, Mendham, NJ 07945) has all manner of wonderful political postcards (rain forests, gun control, drug problems, the government on the rampage, the people getting screwed) available. 50¢ in stamps will get you their catalog.

•The **Protest Catalog** is available for SASE from Charles Bernstein, PO Box 5008, Evanston, IL 60204-5008. it lists tapes and zines from the Protest Interview archives and the back issues of COPS HATE POETRY.

•**Real Goods** (966 Mazzoni St., Ukiah, CA 95482) has their new winter catalog of alternative energy products out, with everything from electric cars to new high-efficiency light bulbs to solar panels and inverters and...lots more stuff. About three bucks should get you a copy, or for $10 they'll send their yearbook which includes all sorts of articles as well as catalog stuff.

•**Redwing Blackbird** (PO Box 2042, Decatur, GA 30030-2042) offers one-stop mail-order shopping for a whole mess of fanzines and other goodies. $1 for their current catalog.

•The new catalog from **See Hear**, the music zine store, is out. If you're not fortunate enough to live in NYC, they'll be happy to sell you all sorts of cool music zines and books by mail. Send a buck for the latest catalog to them at 59 E. 7th St., New York, NY 10003.

•**Six of One** (PO Box 60, Harrogate, HG1 2TP, UK) is the international Prisoner television series appreciation society. You can join for $39 from the US, or write for more details.

•You can get a **Special Mailing List**, with 360 listings for prisoner support groups, organizations, anti-authoritarians and publications for $15 (stamps OK from prisoners) from 5 Star Press, PO Box 4167, Halfmoon, NY 12065.

•**Theatre ov thee Night** (118 E. Goodheart Ave., Lake Mary, FL 32746) wants writings on "Assault theatre, Merry prankstering, poetic terrorism, children ov darkness, tantra, trancewriting methods, TOPY, virtual reality, psychedelics, art gang, agents ov chaos."

•**W.A. Thompson**, who does a syndicated underground column, is willing to send out ads and flyers with his mailings, Send stuff to W.A. Thompson, Smithfield, NC 27577.

•**T-K Graphics** (PO Box 1951, Baltimore, MD 21203) sells things like dragon memo pads, Time Lords stickers, Gandalf postcards, and so on. Send a stamp for a current catalog.

•**Universal Suffrage** (PO Box 35, Alto, GA 30510) is a new group organizing to restore civil rights to convicted felons, starting with the right to vote. Drop them a line for more info.

•**Jouni Wäärakangas** (Kaarelantie 86B28, 00420 Helsinki, FINLAND) has another set of four nightmarish postcards available for $1 postpaid.

•**WANGIFESTO** (Ricardo Wang, PO Box 4542, Seattle, WA 98104) is a single page of words cut from magazines and newspapers, put together into a nightmare collage. Signed and numbered copies are available for $1 or an SASE.

•**Your Name Here** (Graham Trievel, Box 481, Rt. 113, Lionville, PA 19353) is a zine with a rotating editorship, one side of a sheet each time, that's looking for new editors. Write Graham for more details.

★★★★★

## NOTED BUT NOT SEEN

Sometimes we get publicity for zines without getting copies of the zines themselves. Here's the news on a few items that we haven't actually seen:

•BOTTLES AND EXTRAS ($16/12 issues from PO Box 154, Happy Camp, CA 96039) is a monthly for collectors of bottles and related antiques.

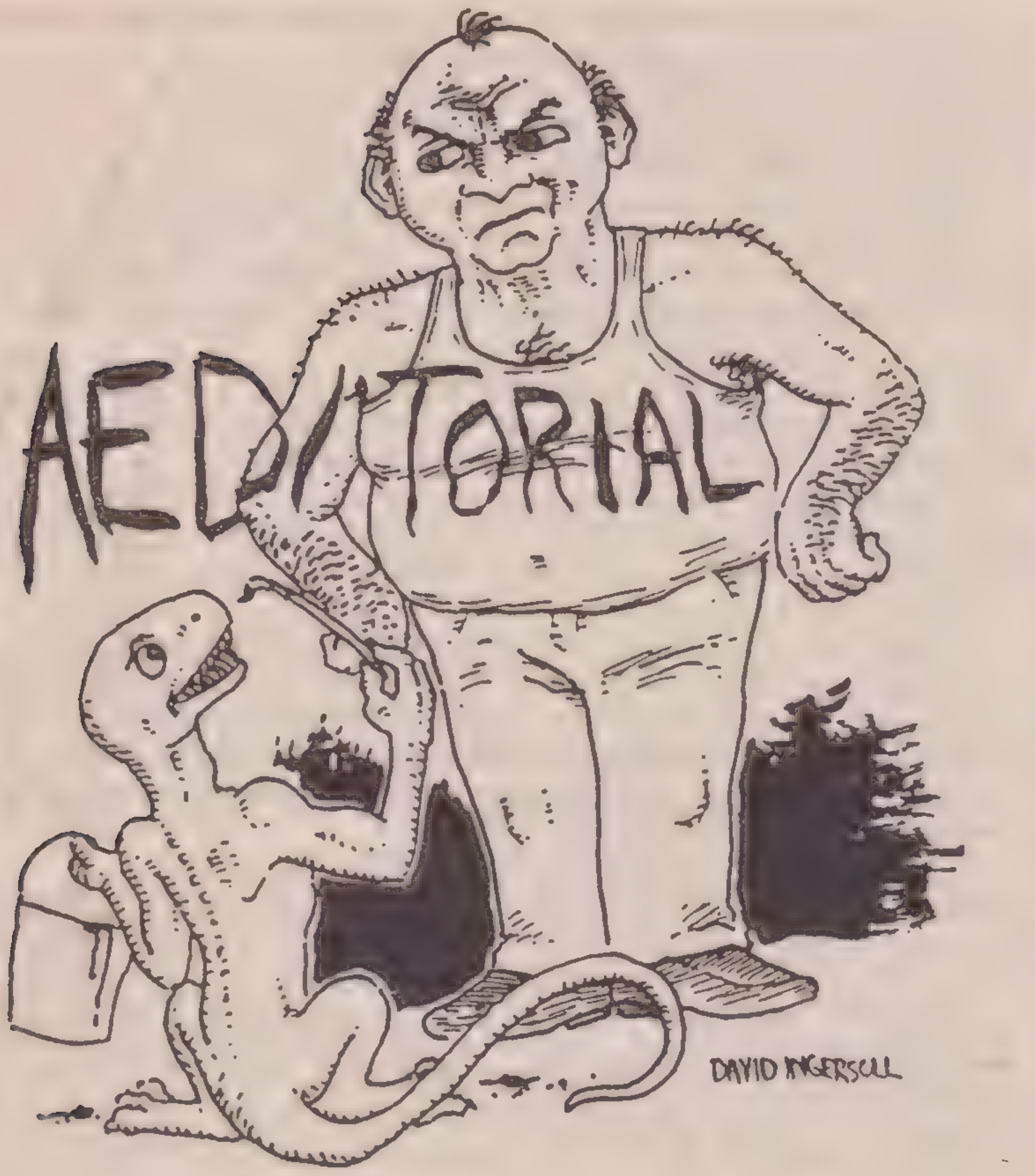
•INDIAN HEAD ($5/yr from G. Lopez, PO Box 15186, Tucson, AZ 85708) comes from a secretive sect of toenail worshippers. They claim to be perfectly serious.

•NIGHT MOUNTAINS ($4 from L. Beaver, PO Box 50462, Indianapolis, IN 46250-0462) is "A dark ride to fantasy and terror".

•THE WHISTLEBLOWER REPORT (National Coalition of IRS Whistleblowers, PO Box 65471, Washington, DC 20035) is devoted to collecting and disseminating reports of IRS misconduct.

•WORLD FRIENDSHIP INTERNATIONAL ($2 from G-256 Gulshan-e-Ravi, Lahore-25, PAKISTAN) is an international penpal magazine appearing once every six months, with reduced rates for listings from ladies.

LATELY I'VE BEEN DEPRESSED BECAUSE AXL ROSE LOOKS BETTER IN LIPSTICK THAN I DO!
—α.



Just to make sure everyone understands: the cover is a *joke*. We have not yet sold out. Of course, no one has made a good offer...

**PUBLISHERS:** *Please* check any listing you have for FF to make sure it has the new rates in it! If you need new ads, tell us, and we'll be happy to send them out. We still get a lot of requests for samples at the old $2 price, which is a problem for us. Thanks.

So, we're still a bit backlogged. Software, videos, books and 7" records are all taking longer than they should to get reviews in FF. We apologize, and thank you for your patience. We try to do the things with the shortest "shelf life" first, but we will get to everything, honest.

It's probably time to explain the rationale behind the "Publisher's Choice" page once again. It's not an attempt to pick the "best" zines. Rather, it's our way of spotlighting a few interesting things each issue, zines which bring competence and passion to their chosen area of activity. We think everything in Publisher's Choice deserves a reading, but remember, there are plenty of other good zines tucked back in the main review section.

It's time for our annual subscription pitch. You'll notice in the front section that FF subscription and single copy prices have gone up again. We're sorry, but with a 30% rise in postage costs there's not much we can do about this. One thing we can do is urge people to subscribe. If you're a current subscriber, you can add up to six issues to your subscription at the old rate, provided you do so before January 15—that's our way of thanking you for getting your subscription in previously. If you're not a current subscriber, it still makes sense to think about it; it's one way to save a few bucks on your copy.

**ARTISTS:** It's time for our 1991 cover competition. The rules are a bit different this time around, because we're upgrading our look to include a new logo, which should help us with newsstand recognition. So if you want to contribute a cover idea, write us *immediately* for a copy of our revised cover guidelines and logo. Then get your rough cover sketches to us by January 31, when we'll be picking the cover artists for all of 1991. *Please do not send camera-ready art unless requested to do so.* Last year, we got 40 submissions, and with only six covers during the year, that meant turning down a lot of good art.

Music producers will note that we have changed the music trade terms to be the same as for everyone else: get in touch once every couple of issues or you're off the list. The old policy was getting too confusing around the offices. In addition, FF has grown quite a bit from the time when we felt it was fair to send out three copies for every cassette tape we received. Naturally, no one will be deprived of issues they're already scheduled to receive.

The latest **FACTSHEET FIVE** party was a success, with close to a hundred people showing up and hobnobbing until all hours. This means we'll do it again next Spring. One problem did become glaringly obvious, though: a lot of people wanted to come from New York City, but couldn't work out transportation. If they'd all rented a few vans, it would have been cheap and easy to make the trek to the frontiers of Albany. So we're looking for a NY Party Coordinator for the next FF party, someone to set up group transportation, arrange to have people picked up, and get them safely home. It won't be all that easy, and we won't pay cash. But we will give someone a lifetime subscription for this, if they do a good job. Give us a call if you're interested.

Well, with three co-editors, we've now opened up a whole new topic for people to write about. Several people have made requests that their material be handled by a particular reviewer, or that we avoid giving their material to a particular reviewer. The answer to these requests is "no". We're working towards developing a style and outlook that will be relatively uniform across the editorial collective. It's going to take time, and (as always happens, whether there is one reviewer or a dozen) some people will feel slighted or misrepresented. If you think we blew it, write to us and complain, and we'll correct any errors. But frankly, it's pretty offensive to be told that you think one of us is too stupid to read.

And on a similar topic, if you want your material reviewed in **FACTSHEET FIVE**, send it to the main 6 Arizona Ave. address. Cari and Jacob are both avid zine readers themselves, but part of the deal to getting reviewed is to send a copy for the archives, even if one of the other editors is already getting your stuff.

And as long as I'm on the subject, Jacob and Cari are *co-editors* around here. They're not secretaries, flunkies, or underlings. If one of them answers the phone when you call, talk to them. If they don't know the answer, they'll find out. We're a collective, not a standard business with a boss who (allegedly) knows everything.

Personal complaint: there are allergic people in this household. Perfumed, incensed or otherwise scented mail ranges from nuisance to threat. Please don't send us smelly mail, and we'll all be happier.

**Hope your holidays were good ones, and that you'll be joining us for the rest of the 1990s.**

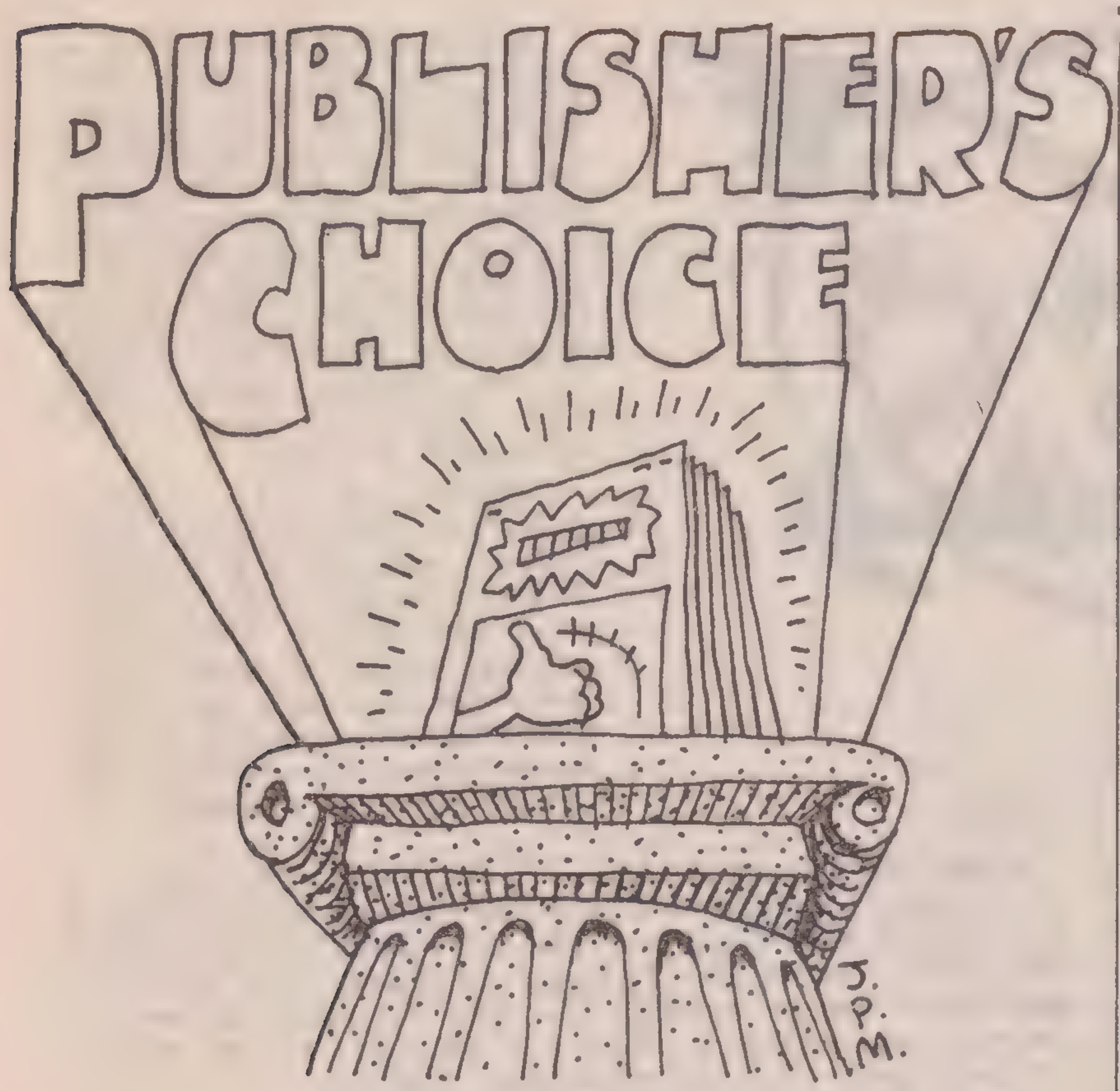
Mike Gunderloy

I wrote an essay a while back about some drivers education class I had taken in high school. The idea of the essay was to point out that the most important thing to remember while driving is to look forward. While it's important to check in the rear view mirror occasionally, it's death if you look there too long. In light of some current events, it feels like Somebody is trying to force us to look into the rear view mirror more than we ought to. With the "70's Preservation Society," bazillions of "Classic" radio stations, warmongers, tie-dye enthusiasts, and whole scores of people looking backwards with nostalgia—it's reaching untold proportions. And **FACTSHEET FIVE** becomes one of the few places to go where we live in the present. We are doggedly determined to *stay alive* here; not to wallow in some memory of an era that, to tell you the truth, never quite happened the way we think it did. There's something to be said for escapism—I'm a Donna Reed fan myself—but don't get lost there. Think for yourselves. Stay alive, in the present. Look to the future instead of the past. That's why we're here. Happy 1991.

Cari Goldberg

It has been suggested that I am peremptory in my poetry reviews. That I am ungenerous with encouragements. That, not to put too fine a point on it, many of my reviews are no more than to say "blow me." After much troubled self-examination & delicate reflection I own the justice of these charges and resolve to improve, in fact to examinine the poetry with such sympathy as to positively enter the world of the poet, whatever the terrible consequences. This is what I have attempted in my review of Paul Holman's minis. Poets may specify whether they wish, should they fall into my hands, to have their material reviewed in the new "sensitive" or the old "blow me" style.

Jacob Rabinowitz



☐**DISEASED PARIAH NEWS #1** ($1 from Tom Shearer, PO Box 31431, San Francisco, CA 94131): Not since the last hours of Petronius Arbiter, (ordered by Nero to commit suicide, he slit his wrists slightly and trickled while he dined, listened to show tunes and made a list of the Emperor's kinky preferences,) not since the first century AD have we seen anything to rank with this PWA publication. Eschewing the consolations of religion as much as the tsk-tsking of its overzealous interpreters, these writers use gallows humor to wring the precious ore from their remaining time. "After all, life itself kills *everybody*, and there's much about life that is purty darn funny, if you like humor. Besides, who wants to be serious all the time, even about fatal illness?" There's much useful information on the day-to-day details of dealing with, from available benefits and rate-breaks to ultra-high calorie cooking ("Get Fat, don't die!") Politics are addressed pointedly in an article on testing in prisons, but also in humorous asides throughout: the cover is a masterpiece—queeny cattishness raised to the level of high art. As if all this were insufficient, there's a big cartoon feature, "The Adventures of Captain Condom in the Valley of the Ultratwinkies," which in no way belies the promise of its name. Wrapped with a paper band reading "Not sanitized for your protection," it's—I never thought I'd say this of any zine—even better than the last **BIMBOX**. "It's my party and I'll die if I want to," quips DPN. This is the laughter of Epicurus, who thought philosophy's triumph "the power to view the world without dismay," it's a witty, brilliant, bitter gleam of classical hedonism in the modern world. *Carpe Diem*. (HL-31t/JR)

**THE NEON NEWS #5** ($15 yr. from PO Box 668, Volcano, Hawaii 96785): A classic publisher's choice item: for a small group of persons passionately interested in an unusual subject, gladly sharing information and expertise, and producing a journal that is, as the Editorial puts it, "cheap, funky and fun." There's job-from-Hell combat stories, (in this issue a mystery glitch on a movie set—bulbs unaccountably burst while the camera rolls at $10,000 a miniute,) topical book reviews, humor (though much of this is only barely accessible, there was a nice list of shop-names from *Neon-n-on* to *Urban Clutter Neon Co.* to *Thunder and Neon*,) articles on safety hazards, and letters & queries. The subject is intrinsically poetic and immediately alchemical: bending and pumping rare glass and gas, hooking up such Frankenstein-sounding devices as "high voltage animators," "primary flashers," and "mercury switches,", sculpting exotic Black UV glass, Voltarc Lunar White, EGL Coral Pink (which becomes a nice hot pink when pumped with Argon.) Imagine wielding and welding Ultra Blue, Veep Green, and Ruby Red tubes—there's something Titanic in the image. In the lead article we find a fancy worthy the grandiose whimsy of Hakim Bey: making *kites* with neon struts: tracer effects against the night sky, changing colors with shifts in direction or rigged with strobe units so as to reappear at every instant in a different sector of the sky. A celestial extension of gas & glass night-writing. It's said (Hesiod) that Prometheus stole fire from heaven by hiding the spark in a hollow reed: the Neon tube is a distant vivid flicker of that archetypal glow-stick, that first pilfered long lozenge of light. (S-12t/JR)

NOMADNESS #9 ($3 from Nomadic Research Labs, PO Box 2390, Santa Cruz, CA 95063): If you're not a hardcore techie you may not be as fascinated by this as I am. On the other hand, Steve Roberts is living his dream, and that's an exciting thing. This is all about his life and his bicycle, a fabulous high-tech contraption featuring solar power, multiple computers, ham radio, electronic connections to the world and much, much more. Interspersed with technical details are thoughts on the importance of passion in life, engineering humor, letters from other readers with their own dreams, and plans for the future. In this issue we see how all the computers unfold for easy service, look at the niche for microfiche as portable documentation, and are treated to an account of the annual Kinetic Sculpture race. The pictures alone are enough to bring joy to any tinkerer's heart. (S-24t/MG)

☐PARANOID TALES OF NEUROSIS #1-2 ($2.50 (?) & Age Statement from Joe Deagnon, 85 Black Friar Lane, Brantford, Ont. N3R 7M2, CANADA): Joe Deagnon is either a comic genius or a drug-crazed maniac, or possibly both. His madball style strikes me as a cartooned analog of Hunter Thompson, especially in the opening story of #1, a tale of his rise to fame and harrowing, drug-addled fall back to K-Mart. The world of scutwork is a concern in both these issues, with #2 bringing us the dark truth from behind the scenes in a fast food joint. #2 also picks on the movies, with a great exploitation flick as the lead strip. Bizarre and wonderful. (S-24/MG)

VIRUS 23 #pi ($7 from Box 46, Red Deer, AB, T4N 5E7, CANADA): A zine of weird stuff with an editorial philosophy "grounded in chaos theory": they write about whatever strange things catch their eye. In this issue, that includes urban legends, Linnea Quigley, Cree Shamanism (in an interview with David Young), a new collection of modern religious ephemera, the OTO, TOPY, the hacker's ethic as seen by some magickians, some New Age guy from the "Federated Free Worlds", reality creation, shamans, the joys of starting your own fake news, and much more. They dress all this up with short news bits and bizarre photos and a worldview that seems composed of some of the further fringes of the ILLUMINATUS! trilogy. Great fun for the cruiser amongst new and wonderful ideas and ideologies. (S-70t/MG)

# Zines

**11TH ST RUSE** Vol. 4 #1 ($1/4 issues from 322 E. 11th St. #23, New York, NY 10003): Literate writing that both amuses and instructs. This issue mainly flows from a recent trip to Russia, speculating about sheep on the subway and the perfection of the Russian language, among other topics. A different view than you'll get from the major media, that's for sure. (S-4/MG)

**THE 2600 CONNECTION** #2 (50¢ or 2 stamps from Timothy Duarte, 14 Blackburn St., Fairhaven, MA 02719-4334): A zine for those who still own and love the original Atari 2600 video game. They print hints on play and strategy, notes on secret messages that you can find by performing proper actions, and so on. This issue closes with want ads and a list of game cartridges known to exist. (S-6t/MG)

☐**327** vol.1 #1 (32.7¢ or $3.27 from 115 15th St., MPLS MN 55403): Whimsical personal humor zine, presenting results of a survey of high-place politicians—do they type, and if so, how fast? Also there's a list of things to do to save the planet (not drinking decaf, heating your home with politicians, &c.) and facetious Romance theory. Somewhat entertaining and somewhat self-indulgent. (D-16t/JR)

**90% PENGUINS** #3 ($1 from 5036 Coronado Pkwy. #302, Golden Gate, FL 33999): An irrepressible creative outpouring from some school-age folks down in Florida. They've got some concerns over the Bill of Rights, some poetry, short stories, ideas on fighting back against authority, and artwork in all the crevices. A promise for the future. (S-14/MG)

**ABC/xyz** #19 ($1.25 from Mark Strickert, 3852 N. Oconto Ave., Chicago, IL 60634): A small collection of travelogues, diaries, and other first-person reports. Of most interest in this issue is Jughead's account of Viet Nam days, trying to counteract some of the mythologizing going on. (D-16r/MG)

**ACROSTICS NETWORK** Vol.1 #3 ($10/membership from W.H. Mock, 1030-A Delaware St., Berkeley, CA 94710: Acrostics heaven for those who enjoy this word game. Each issue contains at least 6 different original puzzles sent in by contributors. Although I haven't yet attempted any, they look to be for the advanced linguist. Answers from the previous issue are in each issue. (S-9/CG)

**A.C.T.** #4 (Donation from PO Box 84001, Trafalgar Postal Outlet, Oakville, ONT, L6H 5V7, CANADA): The zine of Artists for Cultural Terrorism, a group trying to put art in the service of alternative politics. There are reports on actions here, hints on spraypainting, and contact addresses. There are also plenty of mini-posters, some reprints, some brand new. Issues include AIDS, McDonalds, anti-apartheid, and more. (S-42/MG)

**ADULT VIDEO NEWS** Sept.-Nov. 1990 ($39.95/12 issues from 8600 West Chester Pike #300, Upper Darby, PA 19082): A magazine that primarily concentrates on reviewing new adult movies, hundreds of them in every issue, from straight to gay to bi, and with sections on R-rated and amateur films as well. They also keep in touch with free speech issues, and the September issue contains a tribute to departed Supreme Court Justice Brennan. It's amazing how many parodies of mainstream movies and TV shows there are in the X-rated video world. (S-96t/MG)

**AFAN NEWSLETTER** Vol.9 #1 ($15/yr from 8306 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 537, Beverly Hills, CA 90211): The newsletter from the Association for Astrological Networking. Most articles discuss the legality and permanence of Astrology, while keeping sure to remain within the law (it's illegal in some places). This issue deals mostly with the idea of accepting paid advertising for their pages and members discuss this throughout. (S-11t/CG)

**AFRAID** Vol. 1 #11-12 ($20/12 issues from 2170 S. Harbor Blvd., Anaheim, CA 92802): A newsletter for the professional writer of horror. Every issue includes notes on the industry, reviews of current books, and advice for those trying to break in. In #11 Lori Perkins discusses sins that will keep your agent from even considering the manuscript. (S-20t/MG)

**AFTER HOURS** #8 ($4 from PO Box 538, Sunset Beach, CA 90742-0538): A magazine of fantasy and horror fiction in which all the important action takes place after dark. There are some luscious scares here, including Kay Fortunato's shuddery "Dark Place", the mad scientist eeriness of Jeffrey Thomas's "The Yellow House", and the brutal rape-revenge in "Rape at 20,000 Feet", by T.R. Sargent. Elvira also gives a brief interview here. (S-48t/MG)

☐**THE AGITATOR** Vol.2 #1 ($1 (?) from Young Communist League-Brown, Box 48, c/o Student Activities Office, Brown University,): The bulletin from the Young Communist League at Brown University, which sounds a little like a paradox. Here they grapple with "need-aware" admissions policies, forcing numbers of qualified students to apply elsewhere because of financial status. Also listed are goals for the YCL locally and nationwide. (HL-4t/CG)

**AGOG** #3 ($2 from Scott Gray, 372 Fifth Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215): A wild little litmag, this issue with a heavy content for teens and others fascinated with bizarre youthful behavior. There is a wild story about swallowing birds for a science project and another about growing up confused with siblings. Cartoons and poetry too, together with a curious photographic cover. (D-36t/MG)

**AGONIZER** Vol. 2 #3 ($4 from Sue Frank, 2508 Pine St., Philadelphia, PA 19103): A fat fanzine of Klingon lore and gossip. There are drawings, bits of fiction, news of new ships, poetry, color photos, convention reports and much else here. "The Great Peace" (between the Klingons and Star Fleet) is the subject of a feisty debate in this issue, which looks like it can go on for a lot longer. A labor of love and obsession. (S-170t/MG)

**ALASKA METAPHYSICAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER** Aug.-Sept.& Oct.-Nov. 1990 ($12/yr from PO Box 93006, Anchorage, AK 99509-3006): Aug.-Sept. has all sorts of misty articles on forests, crystals & Astrology—this last (in the August issue) traces astral influences on Alaskan history from 1492 to the present. The usual peace, love & self-realisation chatter. Oct.-Nov. pondered the meaning of Thanksgiving and Harvest, Talking and Healing Circles, and Astrology, and had what seemed a fine contact-list and events claendar. (S-14r/JR)

**ALGORITHM** 1.6 ($5 from PO Box 29237, Westmount Postal Outlet, 785 Wonderland Rd., London, ONT, N6K 1M6, CANADA): This zine for folks interested in neat programs to run on their computers is picking up steam. This issue announces a contest for novel screen savers, explores the statistics of collecting, and reports on a project using Lego and LOGO together. There's also a note on a contest designed to put computers to the Turing test. Fun for beginners and experienced users alike. (S-29t/MG)

☐**ALIEN REALITY** #1 (25¢ from David Shadrick, 192 Williams Ct., Dousman, WI 53118): Fear and darkness dominate this ugly little labor of love. Poems on rot, a Lovecraft story reprint, and some metal band reviews. This one could have been written by giant intelligent roaches from another dimension. "Exterminate the human race, things have learned to walk that ought to crawl."

Hideously illustrated. (S-8/JR)

□**ALIVE** #0 ($13/yr. from J. van Lennepkade 122, 1053 MT Amsterdam, The Netherlands): Compiled by a small group of mainly Dutch Anarchists, covering mainly the scale and sort of Anarchist groups in various European countries. Account of an Anarchist conference in West Berlin. Includes a list of contacts world-wide. (A4-20r/JR)

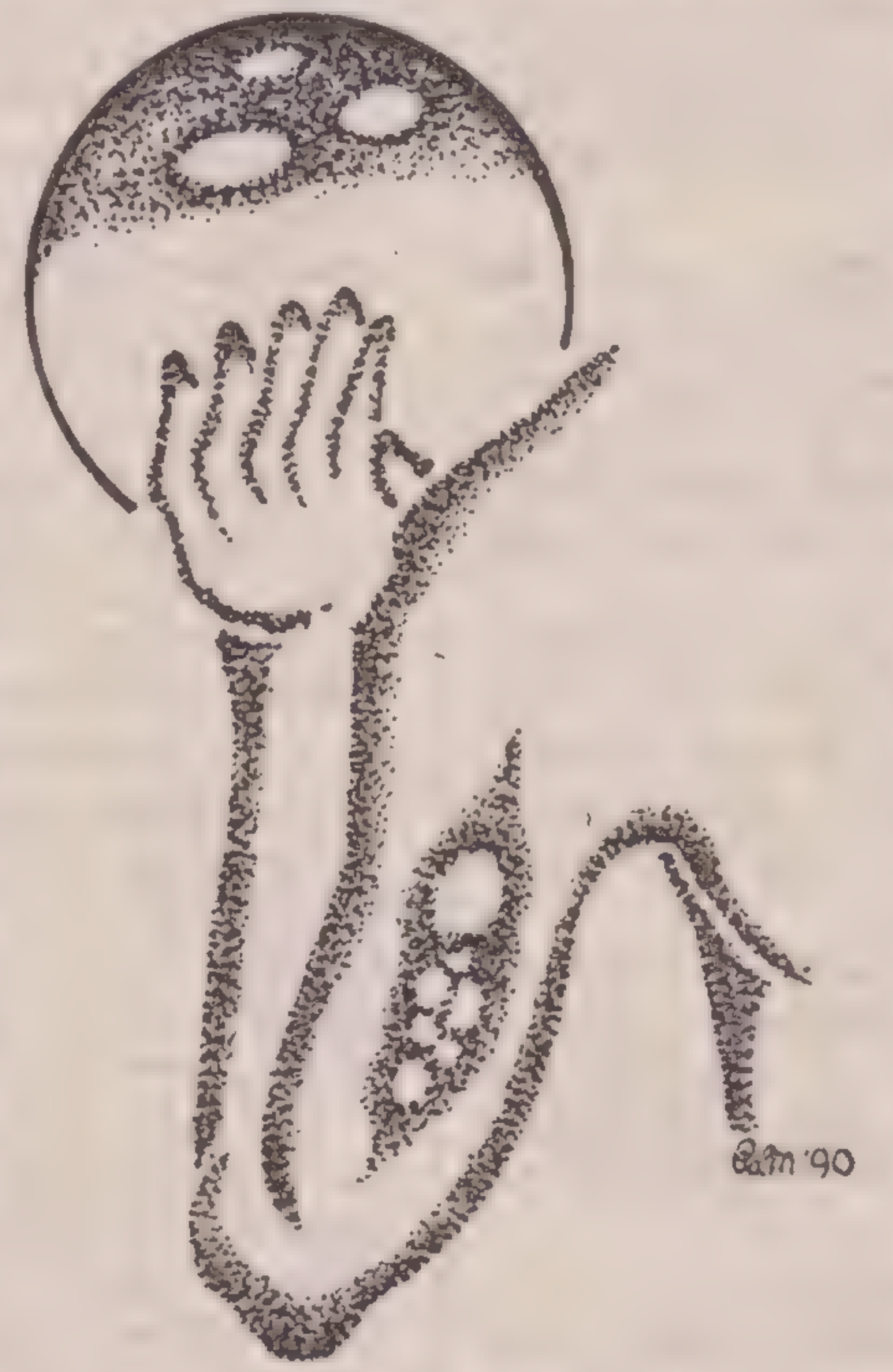
**ALPIC NEWSLETTER** Oct.-Nov. 1990 ($10/yr from Ron Moody, 1111 W. Whiteside, Springfield, MO 65807): A newsletter for people who collect political memorabilia from various state and local candidates—the American Local Political Items Collectors, to be precise. They show and describe various items, and try to track down the story when members come up with a mystery token. The October issue has a roster of members with their specific interests. (S-10/MG)

**THE ALTERED STATE** Vol. 7 #1 ($1 & 2 stamps from Tara Orzolek, 106 E. Clearview Ave., State College, PA 16803): A high-school underground paper which tries to encourage students to write. This issue has a couple of pieces on the misogyny of our language, a response to a previous issue on people and machines, and some horrid dialogue from the popular kids. Well done enough to give me hope for the future. (S-18/MG)

**THE ALTERNATIVE NEWSLETTER** Nov. 1990 ($2 (?) from James B. Boskey, Seton Hall Law School, 1111 Raymond Blvd., Newark, NJ): This is for lawyers and law teachers interested in arbitration, mediation, and similar methods for "ADR"—Alternative Dispute Resolution. It regularly lists new groups involved in this, research going on, newsletters, books, law review articles and events. Certainly seems to be a busy field. (S-28t/MG)

**ALTERNATIVES** Vol. 17 #1 ($22.50/4 issues from Faculty of Environmental Studies, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ONT, N2L 9Z9, CANADA): A fine environmental journal which does excellent special issues. The one at hand is all about water, from the possible use of pricing to encourage conservation to hassles over dams to grassroots action that actually has an impact on cleaning some rivers up. There's also a pullout poster on household hazardous wastes, how to avoid them, and how to dispose of them. (S-60t/MG)

**ALTERNATIVES NEWSLETTER** Fall 1990 ($5/yr from Adam Seward, 1657 W. Pratt #1-A, Chicago, IL 60626): A short collection of news bits and longer opinion pieces, many influenced by religious, Native American and New Age concerns. This issue explains why some Native Americans are not excited about celebrating Columbus Day 1992, and reprints David Castleman's examination of capital punishment. (S-8/MG)



**THE AMERICAN GAY ATHEIST** Vol. 8 #9-10 ($24/yr from PO Box 66711, Houston, TX 77266-6711): This one seems to be mostly interested in doing atheist outreach to the gay community, although of course information flows both ways. The bulk of #9 is taken up with reports on predatory sex on the part of priests and other supposedly celibate religious leaders. #10 includes a report on an action taken by Queer Nation folks to attack the homophobia of some religious demonstrators in New York. (S-12/MG)

**THE AMERICAN RATIONALIST** Nov.-Dec. '90 ($1 from PO Box 994, St. Louis, MO 63188): Mainly two articles that draw on Kant by Philosophy PhD.'s which were a mite too rich for my blood. Otherwise a lot of God-bothering by articulate, honest atheists. First-rate preaching—if you're already in that choir. (S-64/JR)

**AMERICAN WINDOW CLEANER** #24 $35/6 issues from 27 Oak Creek Rd., El Sobrante, CA 94803): The professional newsletter for folks in the window cleaning business. Judging by the ads, ultrasonic cleaning of blinds is one of the hot growth areas of the industry. There is news of new equipment, the latest of OSHA regulation, and announcements of the next convention of the International Window Cleaners' Association in this issue. (S-32t/MG)

**AMERICA'S AT OUR DOORSTEP** Vol.3 #6 ($1 Sample Issue from PO Box 411, Chruchton, MD 20733): A sampling of Dennis' "irreverance, seriousness, silliness and satire" with lots of good nature included. Personal musings, bits of appropos quotes, trivia, letters and an occasional kick in the pants of the system grace these pages. Kind of like Will Rogers with teeth. (S-5/CG)

**AMERRIKUA!** Vol. 8 #4 ($15/2 issues from PO Box 35, Schuyler Falls, NY 12985-0035): A wide-ranging journal of indigenous thought and culture, which moves to biannual publication with this edition. There is much on food and sustainability here, including interesting articles on newly rediscovered Central American food crops and vegetarianism as a Native American custom. The editor also explains at length the title, which offers and alternative explanation for the origin of the word "America" to the usual story about an Italian navigator. (T-20t/MG)

**ANARCHIST LABOR BULLETIN** #20 ($1 from PO Box 210095, San Francisco, CA 94121-0095): Syndicalist anarchist news, views, and contact addresses. This issue comes out against the military presence in the Mideast, reprints part of an article from Tom Wetzel, and takes a look at the current state (dismal) of the investigation into the bombing of Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney. (S-8t/MG)

**ANARCHY** #26 ($9/6 issues from C.A.L., PO Box 1446, Columbia, MO 65205-1446): There's a lot 7packed into this journal: a couple of essays on the workplace and how to get around it, European anarchist news, yet another critique of the SF anarchist convention, and plenty of letters. Many of the debates strike me as too convoluted to match up with the zine's stated purpose of spreading anarchist ideas to those who don't know them yet, but movement aficionados will appreciate the breadth of coverage. Includes the latest issue of **NORTH AMERICAN ANARCHIST REVIEW** as well. (T-40t/MG)

**ANGRY** Vol. 1 #2 ($4 from Tyger Press, 325 Captain's Walk #301, New London, CT 06320): A journal of intelligent (and indeed, sometimes, angry) essays. This issue goes into some of the nastiness that passes for raising children these days and includes a piece on the drug war. An encounter with an unpleasant attorney also gets some space. (S-20t/MG)

**THE ANIMALS' AGENDA** Oct.-Dec. 1990 ($22/yr from PO Box 6809, Syracuse, NY 13217): A slick magazine covering all facets of animal rights, ecology, vegetarianism and similar topics. The October issue looks at a book which draws feminism and vegetarianism closer together and looks at the animal rights movement in the USSR. November considers the mistreatment of race horses and reports on the declining state of the fur industry. Lots of news briefs in every issue. (S-60t/MG)

**ANTHEM** #4 ($2 from Keith A. Gordon, PO Box 158324, Nashville, TN 37215): "The journal of (un)Popular Culture" is still collecting marginals, including Bob Black and Jacob Rabinowitz in this issue. There's an extended review of books on Satanism, anti- and pro-SubGenius rants, Jello Biafra, and the band Faith No More. A medley from the wild side of the publishing world. (S-46/MG)

**ANTI CLOCK-WISE** #11 (40p. from PO Box 175, L69 8DX, Liverpool, Merseyside, ENGLAND): A zine of resistance, rebellion, and countercultural analysis. In #11 the lead is "Why I Hate Cars," with thoughts on housing later on. There's a few flag-burning poems and harsh photocopy graphics. (A4-12/MG)

**ANOTHER PAIR OF SHOES** #4 ($1 from 2398 Jansen Ave., White Bear Lake, MN 55110): A mix of stuff including music interviews (Porcelain Boys, Hogans Heroes), a talk with Paul Weinman (in which he reveals that 60,000 White boy pamphlets have been sent out in the past two years, poetry and an editorial on college and marriage. A reflection of a multi-interested life. (D-36/MG)

**ANTHONY M. EGAN NEWSLETTER** #16 ($1(?) from 612 East 14th St., Apt 17F, New York, NY 10009): This newsletter is mostly comprised of clippings from mainstream media regarding the existence of Satan—witches running for office in Bogota, dropping the number 666 from London license plates—and the rest are ads for Satanic, New Age, and Occult paraphernalia. Tony, however, doesn't have much input in this issue, excepting two prints from historical necromancy. He seems to be nearing the bridge of creation. (S-8/CG)

**APAEROS** #29 ($3 & Age Statement from John & Kathe Burt, 960 SW Jefferson Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333): A reader-written forum for discussion of all facets of sex, erotica, and relationships. In #29 the accounts of hot evenings in the sack seem to be tailing off a bit, with correspondingly more discussion between readers. Drawings, book reviews and serialized fiction show up here along with the chat about doing it. (D-32r/MG)

**APA INFO SERVICE BUREAU REPORT** 14 August 1990 ($1 (?) from Tim Gatewood, PO Box 12921, Memphis, TN 38182-0921): This is a chatty listing of apas put out as part of the N3F (National Fantasy Fan Federation). It's chatty, not comprehensive, and reports on moves, interesting mailings, new OEs, and other apa stuff. Tim is always on the lookout for more interesting apas to recommend. (S-3/MG)

**APOGEE** July-Oct. 1990 (on request from High Flight Foundation, PO Box 1387, Colorado Springs, CO 80901-1387): Evangelical bulletin of Col. Jim Irwin (of the Apollo 15) who's been spreading the Good News worldwide. The July issue covers his trip to Czechoslovakia. Unfortunately this is very much *in medias res*, so his belief's point of origin is unexplained. Includes an advertisement for a "Christian Space Camp." (S-4t/JR)

**AQUARIAN ALTERNATIVES** #175 ($12/12 issues from 5620 Morton St., Philadelphia, PA 19144): A positive-thinking newsletter that's helping move us all towards peace and community. Art and Judy Rosenblum are into abolishing the military, promoting community, and raising our kids well for the future, among other causes. I never know what to expect here, but there are always interesting links. (S-10/MG)

**ART-CORE** #8 ($1.50 from PO Box 49324, Austin, TX 787654): Uncensored art, writings, and poetry. There's lots of sex here, from stick-figure drawings to John Howard's aggressive fantasy women. Oberc and Weinman and Mycue contribute poetry, and Sigmund Weiss a fairy tale about cunnilingus. Aggressive support for free speech in the arts. (S-24/MG)

□**ART LINE** Vol. 1 #1 ($2 (?) from Frank Thomson, 17 Pine Dale Rd., Asheville, NC 28805): A new collection of original art pieces, to which others are invited to contribute: send 100 originals and SASE. The first issue is "Art About a Guy named Art", with rubber stamps, prints, photocopy alterations and so on. #2 is scheduled to be "Will of the People". (S-10/MG)

**ARTPAPER** Vol.10 #1-3 ($2.75 from 2402 University Ave. W., #206, St. Paul, MN 55114): This government-funded culture zine contains, along with gallery listings and the like, a number of verbose and stilted articles on Aids & Art, Afro-American Art, &c., done in such a scholarly-pretentious style, with such baroque syntax, as to be quite unreadable. I find it particularly annoying to see vital social concernes trivialised into chewbones for neutered intellectual pups. (T-32t/JR) My colleague protests too much. Especially for an arts scene paper, this one is wonderful, talking about real people doing real things outside of galleries. For example, #2 has a fine centerfold on the most recent Swampfest. #3 has a spread on the sex-workers' organization PONY and an article on the WELL as Virtual Salon that has the good taste to quote something I said there. (T-32t/MG)

**ARTSFOCUS** Vol. IV #2 ($10/yr from 1514 Western Ave., Seattle, WA 98101): "Seattle's Performing Arts Magazine", though their looks at censorship and access in this issue carry them to other types of art as well. they review local performances from the Bolshoi Ballet to Survival Research Laboratories, appearing to have an affinity for the more traditional arts. There's a short calendar as well. (T-16t/MG)

**ASPECTS** #11-13 ($2 *CASH* from Steve Polsz, 5507 Regent St., Philadelphia, PA 19143): "A neo-renaissance manual for personal development", this one proceeds in odd and mind-stretching directions. There's basic metaphysics, English-language gematria, a model of a cuboctahedron to cut and fold, and more. #12 has an essay on invisibility to consider and meditate on. (S-17/MG)

**ASYNJUR** Vol. IV #1 ($2.50 from PO Box 567, Granville, OH 43023): A zine of Norse paganism with a decidedly feminist and even humanist slant. The major article here is an extensive annotated bibliography on books about runes, which might help beginners sort out some of the chaos in the field. There's also a retelling of the Sif myth cycle, and lots of other goodies. (D-32/MG)

**ATHEIST PENPAL 'ZINE** #3-4 (75¢ *CASH/stamps* from Professor Pyramid, 111 12th Ave. N, St Petersburg, FL 33701-1825): A contact zine for those who are atheists looking for kindred spirits to write to. Every issue includes a listing form so you can get into the next edition. Pseudonyms are welcome. #4 was the final issue. (S-6/MG)

**THE ATROCITY** Vol. 14 #9-11 ($8/12 issues from Hank Roll, 2419 Greensburg Pike, Pittsburgh, PA 15221): Hank assures me that the purpose o this one is to amuse rather than to offend, but you should definitely not be too thin-skinned to subscribe. They go in for office humor, rude jokes, nasty letters from readers, carcinogenic chemicals, and other unlikely attempts at fun. Still, it does cause smiles, even if sometimes not PC. (S-14r/MG)

**AURAL AUGASM** #11 ($4 from 90 Chiswick Lane, Chiswick, London W4, UK): This is the "Love Hurts" issue of this zine, ranging from the relatively tame (reviews of things like **BETTY PAGES** and **BOILED ANGEL**) to the extraordinary (medical reports on techniques for removing foreign bodies from the rectum). There's a page about autoerotic asphyxia, one about amputee fetishism, reviews of strange videos and stranger toys. Even this jaded zine reviewer learned a few new things here. (D-36r/MG)

**AUSTRALIAN EXPATRIATE** Vol.1 #8($2.50 from 3809 Plaza Dr., Suite 107-307, Oceanside, CA 92056): A news and information journal for those Aussies in the US with news from home and abroad. Articles include tips on filing Australian tax returns, film societies down under, plus the regular departments having a general look at everything from immigration to wine. (S-64t/CG)

**AUTOPSY** #11 ($1 *CASH* from Chris Doolan, 89 Pangeza St., Stafford Heights, Brisbane, Qld. 4053, AUSTRALIA): Mostly video reviews, though they do work in some zine and music commentary as well. The real challenge to doing a B movie zine in Australia, of course, is finding things to watch that the censors have not sliced to ribbons. They pick up a few here and mention a few more to avoid, including the latest from the director of *Nekromantik*. Comes with a free plastic "Serial Killer Knife". (D-8r/MG)

□**BABY SPLIT BOWLING NEWS** Vol. 1 #2-7 ($3.25 from PO Box 7205, Minneapolis, MN 55407): Yes, this one really is about bowling—but it's bowling in a strange new

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context of humor, sex, and life itself. #7, for example, is a sort of New Age issue, with crystals to put into the holes of your bowling ball, advice on tapping into the energy that's out there, sleazy photos of starlets, and who knows what else. The marginals are everywhere! (S-36/MG)

**BACK BRAIN RECLUSE** #15 ($5 from Anne Marsden, 31468 Calle la Purisima, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675-2547): Anne is the US agent for this adventurous British SF zine, edited by Chris Reed. There's a wonderfully convoluted piece of fiction in this issue from Paul Di Filippo, as well as offerings from Don Webb and Wayne Allen Sallee. The letters column is running a hefty debate on the state of the small SF press, Mike O'Driscoll also contributes an unusual story in his "Sailor on the Sea of Tranquility". (A4-56t/MG)

**BACKWOODS HOME MAGAZINE** #6 ($3.50 from PO Box 1624, Ventura, CA 93002): Advice and ideas and recipes and humor for folks trying to get out of the city and back into the woods. This issue has advice on buying, installing and operating a wood stove, plans for a thermosiphon solar hot water system, and a harrowing tale of life with a composting toilet. There's advice on raising chickens and giving haircuts, and further news of editor Dave Duffy's construction projects. If you loved the old **MOTHER EARTH**, you should definitely give this one a try. (S-56t/MG)

**BAD HAIRCUT** ($4 from 3115 SW Roxbury St., Seattle, WA 98126): A zine which intersperses poetry and art with heavier stuff to good effect. This issue (apparently unnumbered) has a fascinating story of being introduced to Ayhuasca in the Amazonian jungle, and a longish interview with Noam Chomsky. A series of changes rung on the Statue of Liberty leads to some fascinating art. (D-32t/MG)

**THE BAFFLER** Summer 1990 ($3.70 from 1212 E. 59th St., Room 210, Box 26, Chicago, IL 60615): "The Journal That Blunts The Cutting Edge" leads off with a strong editorial blasting the corporate pre-empting of art for its own purposes. After that, though, I can't find too much that stands out: a tongue-in-cheek sociology of suburbia, a high school angst story, a poem of two Yuls. Bright and intelligent stuff, but hardly the pathbreakers I had hoped for. (D-48t/MG)

**THE BAG** #39 ($1 *CASH/Stamps* & SASE from Buddah Worthmore, 28313 58th Ave., Paw Paw, MI 49009): There's a bit of anti-FF text in here, but it's OK, Buddah and I have come to an understanding. There's also a great analysis of modern music and the tension between "pop" and "chops", a couple of serialized stories, candy bar news, and outrageous egomaniacal bragging. All in all a long-running bit of gonzo culture. (S-4r/MG)

**BAHLASTI PAPERS** Vol. V #3 ($2.25 [checks to "Cash"] from Kali Lodge, OTO, PO Box 15038, New Orleans, LA 70115): This magickal publication just gets wilder all the time. #3, for instance, has an article which combines the teachings of Korzybski with those of Thee Temple Ov Psychick Youth, and another on "chaos tantra." There are always plenty of obscure visions, workings, archetypes and fiction as well. (S-10t/MG)

**BALCONY OF IGNORANCE** #9 (50¢ *CASH/stamps* from Claude Bottom, 55A Centennial St., Seabrook, NH 03874): You never know what's going to be in this one, chronicle of Claude's life that it is. This time there are some zine reviews, a musical look at the Dictators, George Bush and Saddam Hussein, and ideas for making pro wrestling a bit faster moving. The Seabrook Siren Test Notice is a bit scary. (D-12r/MG)

☐**BALDER** #2 (£2 (?) from Coxland Press, The Studio, Chalkpit Farm, Englefield, Berkshire, RG7 5EE, ENGLAND): A magickal journal with "Pan-European" ideas and an international cast of readers and writers. There's an essay on the Abyss, notes on the magical meaning of Avalon, and another article on Austin Spare's ideas about sigils. They sent along a membership blank, but no information on the monetary side of joining their "Fraternity of Knowledge". (D-20/MG)

**BALLOT ACCESS NEWS** Vol. 6 #6-7 ($6/yr from 3201 Baker St., San Francisco, CA 94123): A newsletter for those interested in the fate of third parties on electoral ballots. They argue for free access to the voters, and cover the problems and occasional victories in the movement. Lots of lawsuits in #7, what with the recent elections. (S-6t/MG)

**BARBED WIRE CANOE** #8 ($1 & stamps from Q, Reed College Box 165, 3203 SE Woodstock Blvd., Portland, OR 97202-8199): Outpourings of creativity with cool color photocopy covers this time around; especially like the "Memetic Hazard" sign on the back cover. Inside we get a design for a pipe, drawings, a death of dada rant, and more. Very open to submissions, especially original ones. (S-20/MG)

**BARKING SPIDER** #4 (50¢ from Johnny Spider, 9820 Lockerbie, El Paso, TX 79925): A zine with a medley of contents: poetry, music, zine reviews and more. There's an interview with the folks behind a local concert space, a quick talk with Bill Shields and a pile of his poems, and a White Boy mini. Hogans Heroes also show up in this issue. (S-14t/MG)

**BESIDES** #3 (stamp? from Ross Best, 2112 New Hampshire NW #805, Washington, DC 20009): Political wiseacreage, attacking the war around Kuwait, anti-environmental senators, and other similarly broad targets. Tho' given to atrocious puns, Best is verbally quite proficient, and his paper would make pretty fair reading if his opinions were a tad more daring. (S-2t/JR)

☐**BEYOND PAIN** #1 ($2 from Jeff Wilson, PO Box 36101, Federal Way, WA 98003): A new zine of horror film appreciation that tries to emphasize the timeless greats in the field and new movies worth watching, rather than slog through drek. So this issue has a Lon Chaney tribute and reviews of both the original *Phantom of the Opera* and the recent remake. Other flicks range from *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* to *Leatherface*. (S-22/MG)

☐**BIG CIGARS** Fall 1990 ($4 from Jose Padua, 44 Avenue B. #4A, New York, NY 10009): A litmag that concentrates on life and growing up and strange sex and desperate times. There's an excellent edge-of-hysteria story from Jennifer Blowdryer, and strong poetry from Suzy Flory, Bud Backen and Carol Wierzbicki, to name a few. Fun innovative covers too. (S-40t/MG)

**BIG FOREHEAD EXPRESS** Vol.1 #7-8 ($8/6 months from Incite Information, PO Box 17406, Arlington, VA 22216): Digest-sized periodical containing missed, ignored or uncovered stories by the mainstream press. In #7 there are news briefs, an insight into the ratio of blacks to whites on Death Row, and a very discerning article by Joe Peacott on the AIDS Activist Movement and how sometimes blinded by causes, we can't see the whole picture. (D-15t/CG)

**BIKINI GIRL** vol.1 #3 ($10 (it's a rare back-issue) from 256 E. 10th St., Suite 4B NYC 10009): This was a most fascinating culture & music zine: done in hip, insinuating style, it touts the clubs, the artists, trashy fashions from the mod period, bondage—in fine, everything that has made the lower east side America's style capitol. With effervescent interviews, liberally illustrated with nifty vintage cheesecake and peculiarly humorous collage. As droll and elegant as only Gay men are supposed to be—and in many of the same ways. (D-32r/JR)

**BIMBOX** #3 ($4 from 282 Parliament St. #68, Toronto, ONT, M5A 3A4, CANADA): An outrageous gay zine with punk overtones and plenty of sleazy photos. This issue contains the complete story of the copies of the last issue seized by US Customs. It's also got a Partridge Family discography, prehistoric lesbian porno, advice on safe mailing across borders, and bizarre gay comics. It also comes with a free pamphlet from SCAB, the Society for Complete Annihilation of Breeders. Proudly politically incorrect and a lot of fun. (HL-80r/MG)

☐**BITS, BYTES & BBSs** Vol. 1 #2 ($16/yr from PO Box 149, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510): A zine situated at the intersection of the computer and shortwave radio worlds—this issue has a long list of BBS systems dealing with shortwave traffic, perhaps the ultimate way to distribute the words from the net. There are software reviews, a bit of humor, news from the BBS world and a look at common types of BBS users. (S-12t/MG)

☐**BLACK FILM REVIEW** Vol.6 #2 ($12/yr from 2025 Eye St. NW, Suite 213, Washington, DC 20006): This magazine about films primarily featuring black talent is co-produced with the Black Film Institute of the University of the District of Columbia. The in-depth articles report on international black film making and cultural diversity on and off the screen. This issue looks at *Mo' Better Blues* from three different angles, reviews films that we unfortunately will probably never see released in the mainstream, including James Bond III's *Def By Temptation* and offers some enlightening thought on Canada's controversially titled, *How To Make Love To A Negro Without Getting Tired*. Articulate film criticism that transcends static interpretations. (S-33t/CG)

□**BLACK NEW YORK MAGAZINE** Summer '90 ($1.50 from PO Box 7620, Corona, NY 11373): Tabloid of art, music, restaurants, clubs, & shops. This issue had a fascinating article by Andrew White on the death of Jazz in the Black community, tracing the influence of Whites with money in one hand and the power to confer "Art" status in the other. Done in arch and authoritative style, this was a little masterpiece. The setting wasn't unworthy of it—this was a splendid guide to Black culture in the city. (T-36t/JR)

□**BLAMMOROOTS** Vol. 3 #4 ($10 from Heidi Ferguson, 235 So. 200 East #106, Salt Lake City, UT 84111): A collection of artwork bound together in a sort of artists' apa. The material here is mostly visual, from photography through a photocopied flag with a match taped to the back. You can get a copy cheaper by participating—send 50 copies on 8 1/2 x 11 paper together with $2.50. (S-22/MG)

**BLIND IGUANA PRESS** #2-3 ($5/6 issues from Dan Breen, 513 Corby Ave., South Bend, IN 46617): A very small litmag that's managing some clever work; perhaps the space limitations enable them to be fussy. #2 features a poem about God and mosquitoes from Gate Perry. #3 is mainly a rather nasty sex-soaked short story by editor Daniel Breen. (S-2t/MG)

**BLIP** #133-134 ($1 from Joke Press, 106 S. Spruce, Box 74, Nokomis, IL 62075): Homespun humor and commonsense wit, with a certain amount of droll or heartwarming local news. This issue had part of a baseball-history of Nokomis. A friendly publication from a "self-styled humorist." Limerick contests and the news from Nokomis Florida are other steady features. (D-38t/JR/MG)

**BLOATED TICK** Vol.4 #10-112 (SASE & 25¢ postage from 24 Main St., S. Grafton, MA 01560): Personalzine of whimsical nonsense. I kind of liked the facetious calendar on the back of #10, made with computer icons and wry comments. Includes lists of incoming mail, reports from a computer BBS, and word searches. Harmless. (S-8/JR/MG)

**BLUE LARRY** #1 ($1 from Marilyn & Elvis, 1705 4th St. #A, New Orleans. LA 70113): A mix of things from the edges of society: how to beat piss tests, why we shouldn't celebrate Columbus Day, and how to play blues guitar all make this issue. There are short zine reviews, drawings of genital piercings, and some reprinted material on social issues. (D-12/MG)

**BLUE LIGHTS** #33/34 ($6 from Lil Sibley, 4945 U St., Sacramento, CA 95817): A zine for friends and fans of the Starman TV series, with occasional excursions into *simpatico* shows such as Quantum Leap. This issue features more news than ever about the show and those who appeared on it, plus notes on an upcoming convention, reviews of other zines, and a discussion of copyright law as it applies to exchanging videotapes. (S-48r/MG)

**BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE** Vol.44 #1-3 (Donation from Institute of Human Relations, Loyola University, Box 12, New Orleans, LA 70118): #1 is basically a single essay by Tom Cordaro, linking modern nonviolent action to Biblical tradition, insisting that such actions can only be properly performed by "Faith Communities,"—somehow undisturbed that his precedents (Jesus & Ezekiel) were outsiders repudiated by their F.C.'s. This communicentric caveat goes some way to explaining why most nonviolent action's no more than following the state around with a mop and a bucket. #2 contains some early reaction to American intervention in the Middle East. (S-7t/JR/MG)

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□**BLUE RYDER** #15 ($2 from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): A new zine grown out of the combined **HEATHENZINE** and **TEMM**. It's got some original poetry and essays, but the bulk is reprints from other small press zines—sort of an **UTNE** for the underground. Excerpts from **INFOCULT, UPRIGHT OSTRICH, WRESTLING THEN & NOW, ASH** and lots more appear. Anti-war concerns are running high, along with Ace Backwords comics and other goodies poking at the Establishment. (S-36/MG)

**BLUE SWAN NOTES** Winter 1990-91 ($1 from PO Box 9925, San Diego, CA 92169-0925): A continuing review of mail-order fashion and clothing catalogs. This issue focuses on swimwear, from the flashiest new designer labels to high-tech suits for competition swimming. (D-4/MG)

**THE BLUMENFELD EDUCATION LETTER** Vol. V #9-10 ($1.50 from PO Box 45161, Boise, ID 83711): A conservative Christian view of education, arguing for a return to smaller, more focused, more value-based schools. #9 argues for an end to compulsory attendance laws, which they see as a major evil. #10 discusses the superiority of intensive phonics over other methods of learning to read. (S-8t/MG)

**B MAGAZINE** #8 ($1 (?) from B Media Projects, PO Box 70612, Washington, DC 20024): A collection of essays, growing rapidly, and getting more impressive. There's a proposal for causing the government to sit up and take notice by purposefully shrinking the GNP, hooks into outrageous sources of information, political stuff on the War in Iraq...and more. Even modern physics and the proof of nonlocality gets discussed. (S-20t/MG)

**BOILED ANGEL** #6 ($3 from Michael C. Diana, PO Box 5254, Largo, FL 34649-5254): If you can be disgusted at all, this will probably do it. It's got gross pictures, nasty language, graphic stories of torture and plenty of blasphemy. It's sexist, racist, misogynistic, Satanic, and generally rude and crude. Editor Mike Diana lost his job when caught photocopying some of this, and it's hard to blame his employers. For the sick puppy looking for new thrills. (S-84/MG)

**BOOKS ARE EVERYTHING** #14 ($24/yr from R.C. & Elwanda Holland, 302 Martin Dr., Richmond, KY 40475): A fat zine for the collector of "VPK"'s—"Vintage Paperbacks". They print lots of lurid and extravagant cover photos, checklists of things like all the paperbacks they can find about baseball, and advice for people new to the hobby. A friendly and growing field. (S-72/MG)

**BOOMERANG** 1 ($1 (?) from Durand J. Compton, 1303 Galvin Rd. #306, Bellevue, NE 68005): The zine of "Street Level Outreach", this one has a Christian orientation. It's mainly reviews, featuring other Christian zines as well as new Christian music. There's also some comics and a bit of editorializing. (S-10/MG)

**BRAIN CANCER** #2-3 ($1 from Mike Canich, PO Box 31, Romeo, MI 48065): This handwritten and drawn zine is quite a treat, really, after you get past the end-times feel of it. Mike blows off a bit of steam over many topics designed, it seems, just for that, i.e. censorship, abortion, even Christianity—in a series of comic book art prose and vignettes. He lets us in on what happens to him one day at the mall and how that reverberates into a new consciousness over the existence of women. Contemplative and with great art besides. #3 starts a new comic series, "Politics of Suffering", which looks as destined to slice to the bone as his previous work. (S-19/CG/MG)

**THE BRAIN CENTER NEWSLETTER** #6 (new series) ($5/yr from PO Box 795, Berkeley, CA 94701): The Brain Center is essentially a salon for intelligent laymen to hear from experts in cutting-edge fields of science. The newsletter mainly lays out their coming programs, from a film of the Mayan creation myth to the development of new materials under ultra-high pressures. (S-3t/MG)

**BRAIN RAPE** #3 (SASE from The Overlords of Rapaxcia, PO Box 3648, Corpus Christi, TX 78463-3648): A mix of silliness, SubGenius-style humor, and the occasional serious piece (like the feature on Zoom Black Magic radio reprinted in this issue). The print letters they get from underground personalities, put in sloppy cartoons, rant about MTV and otherwise hop around from subject to subject. The Overlords of Rapaxcia have not yet explained what this overlordship is all about. (S-12/MG)

**BREAKTHROUGH** Fall 1990 ($2.50 from Prairie Fire Organizing Committee, PO Box 14422, San Francisco, CA 94114): A leftist political journal from America's homegrown opposition, one of the last remaining links to the politics of opposition from the sixties. This is modern stuff, though, with the centerpiece of this issue being a multi-viewpoint forum on Central America organizing. There's the latest news of the Resistance Conspiracy, commentary from some West German leftists on reunification, and an interview with Boris Kagarlistky, a Soviet new left activist. (S-48t/MG)

**BREITENBUSH NEWSLETTER** Vol. VIII #3 ($4/yr from PO Box 578, Detroit, OR 97342): A newsletter from a cooperative business that runs a fairly well-known retreat and conference center in Oregon. It lists all the upcoming programs, and gives info on registering, but what I read it for is the words on the health of the community. They've had their ups and downs over the year, but right now seem to be a strong and happy family, with energy left over to fight against clearcutting and otherwise try to help the world. (S-32t/MG)

**BRIMSTONE** Vol. 2 #2 ($6 from PO Box 660, Marstons Mills, MA 02648): This issue of the journal of the Ancient Brotherhood of Satan includes a handy blank contract in case you'd like to sell them your soul. There's also more bickering between the Church of Satan folks and the Setians, notes on how to live satanically, and more. Plenty to browse through here, from people who seem to take their Satanic leanings seriously indeed. (S-50r/MG)

**THE BUFFALOON NEWSLETTER** Vol.4 #3 ($1.25 cash, stamps or trade from Raisin Blowme, 31 West Northrup Pl., Buffalo, NY 14214): A twice-yearly look at the current media offerings with lots of subjective analysis thrown in. Movies, music, TV, books—all of these come under the strict eye of editor Blowme. This issue peers at *Twin Peaks* a little too closely—sometimes a cigar is just a cigar—e.g. Laura Palmer and her relationships. Otherwise it's more fun than *Entertainment Tonight*. (HL-19/CG)

□**BROADSHEET** Vol. 1 #9 (25¢ & SASE from Light Productions, 57 Vernon St., 2nd Fl., Providence, RI 02903): A journal of editorial opinion and random bits—like the cookie recipe in this issue. There's short fiction, an piece on changing the world, and an angry letter from a former subscriber objecting to a tasteless previous issue. Fun. (S-2t/MG)

□**BROAD TOPICS** #3 ($2 from Broad Topics, c/o the Women's Resource Center, Room 100, Building T-9, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720): A feminist-literary journal from some very inspiriting young hands. The editors collective delivers poetry, prose, letters, and statistics with brave insight. This is about women—every single kind—ethnically and spiritually. Highpoint for me was Montez Horne's "Coming to Terms," in which she recalls thoughts and feelings about her mixed heritage, which is African-American and Jewish-American. Really promising and not doggedly pedantic. (O-12t/CG)

**THE BROTHERHOOD OF SeTH'S MEKTOUB** Vol. II #6-7 ($8/12 issues from Ananael, PO Box 5233, Ellsworth, ME 04605): A zine of magick from the "homophiliac current", for somewhat flamboyant gay magicians. The #6 issue includes an article addressing some of the oversights in many texts on the field that fail to deal with AIDS. #7 examines the world of William Burroughs. (S-12/MG)

**BROWBEAT** #2 ($10/4 issues from Valis, 444 Levering Mill Rd., Merion, PA 19066): This has about the most primitive litmag layout I've seen—one story ends, the next starts, bang, in the same column—but I guess it doesn't matter because some of the writing is super-powerful. In that category I put Sarah deForest's "Ice Cream", an AIDS story which actually seemed more affecting than most of what I've read on the subject. Jim Knipfel's "Dregs" and Al Dagit's "Dream Weekend" are powerful as well. Stories with an eye to the underbelly of American life. (S-44t/MG)

□**BROWNBAG PRESS** Vol. 1 #1 ($2.50 from Randal Seyler, 112 Wedgewood #12, Morgantown, WV 26505): A new litmag which collects three very bizarre stories for a bang-up premiere issue. "The Water Demon", by Brooks Caruthers, is a disturbing story of non-human sex and bonding. Shannon Frach contributes "Mojo Chateau", with one of the great opening lines of the modern press. Then there's "Burgundy & Audi Blues", by Randal Seyler, with its crazed Methodist lead character. A promising start. (D-34t/MG)

**BUILDING ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES** Fall 1990 ($20/yr from Co-op America, 2100 M St. #403, Washington, DC 20063): The magazine of Co-op America, a consumer group that supports a variety of socially responsible causes. This issue includes their annual directory of organizational members, giving contact info for about 450 businesses and groups. There's also boycott updates and a section on "ecotourism". (S-56t/MG)

□**BULLETIN OF THE MONETARY REALIST SOCIETY** #122 ($1 from PO Box 31044, St. Louis, MO 63131): A carefully-reasoned argument that the Federal government should be issuing the gold and silver money provided for in the Constitution rather than paper dollars from some bank. They talk about the declining infrastructure and inflation and our rush to become a second-class nation, and blame most of this on our monetary system. (S-2t/MG)

**BUMP!** Vol. 1 #11-14 ($1.50 from 6964 W. 84th St., Minneapolis, MN 55438): A desktop-published wrestling weekly featuring well-done graphics including scanned photos. They tend to tie back into wrestling history in their editorials, which are perhaps the most interesting part of the scene. News is updated by promotion and region, and they run regular opinion columns as well. (L-6t/MG)

**BVI-CENTRAL** #9-7 to 9-8 ($1 *or transit paraphernalia* from J. LeRoy, PO Box 95984, Seattle, WA 98145-2984): Well, the LeRoys made it safely cross country, but we won't hear about that for awhile. For now, J.'s latest is "I Regret That I Only Have One Life to Give For A Gallon Of Super-Unleaded," a no-holds barred attack on the powers that be stupid in D.C. Bush-bashing, Sununu-stomping aside, there are also peeks into other absurdities of modern life, including major media, fast food and cars. #8 goes into ways to fight against the right and continues picking on the political establishment. (D-17t/CG/MG)

**BVI-PUGET SOUND** #1 ($1 from Ann LeRoy, PO Box 95984, Seattle, WA 98145-2984): This is the continuation of **BVI-GREAT LAKES**, now that Ann and J. have moved to Seattle. Most of the action this time takes place in Las Vegas, though, as Ann describes what a truly horrible time she had at her parents' remarriage ceremony. It adequately captures the tackiness of a town I never liked either. (S-12t/MG)

**CAAC NEWS** Oct. 1990 (Donation from PO Box 7454, Olympia, WA 98507): Newsletter of the Central America Action Committee of Thurston County. They're very active in networking, both among other local groups and with actual trips to Nicaragua and elsewhere. This issue has their response to the Mideast plus the usual medley of reporting and good causes. (S-8t/MG)

**CAMPUS REVIEW** Vol. 6 #7-9 ($5/yr from 336 S. Clinton #16, Iowa City, IA 52240): Everyone's favorite conservative college paper is back with a special Orientation insert in #7 for new students that's guaranteed to draw some grumpy complaints, containing as it does a guide to seducing "Babes" in Iowa City—and no equal time guide to seducing studs. There's also plenty of political commentary national and local, as well as interesting quotes and outrageous posters. #8 reports on the latest attempts by campus liberals to suppress this exercise of free speech. (T-20t/MG)

**CANVAS CHAUTAUQUA** fall '90 ($2 from POB 361, Bloomington, IN 47402): A zine for hippy literates, contains a story about living under a tarp in Tennessee, ruminations on the societal pressure to wear hair short, some enthusing on yoga, plus zine reviews and an ecology-minded resource listing. (D-14/JR)

**CAN WE** #45 (Donation from PO Box 2152, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-1913): A newsletter for "downwinders" and others concerned about nuclear testing and nuclear plants. Most of this focuses in on the latest news from the Hanford nuclear reservation, with brief bits of news and pointers to actions. (L-2/MG)

**CAPRA** #86 ($3 from PO Box 18293, Milwaukee, WI 53218): Huge fat cinema APA with abundant serious discussion & feedback on films and their trivia. Anni Ackner's in it and she's pretty good company—that should give you an idea of the sort of people it attracts. For those who share the obsession an outstanding value. (S-157/JR)

**CARIBBEAN NEWSLETTER** Vol. 10 #8-10 ($$10/yr from Friends For Jamaica, PO Box 20392, Park West Sta., New York, NY 10025): News from all the little countries in the Caribbean islands, from a generally left point of view but much more detailed than you'll get elsewhere. This issue reports on the Trinidad coup attempt, elections in Guyana, and the continuing Grenada 17 murder trial. (S-14/MG)

**THE CARING CONNECTION** Vol. 6 #10-11 ($2 from Phyllis A. Burns, 3060 Bridge St. #342, Brighton, CO 80601): Helpful tidbits from and for the disabled population and those who help care for them. #10 includes an Alzheimer's hot line, notes on where to get a catalog of helpful items, and a first-person account of living with a limp. (S-6/MG)

**THE CAROLINA CRITIC** Sept.-Oct. 1990 ($20/yr from 01 Steele Bldg., CB 5100, UNC, Chapel Hill, NC 27599): This conservative student paper is now being distributed on four separate campuses, a sort of mini-media empire. Inside they go for a humorous (and sometimes shockingly annoying) approach to the issues of the day, poking sticks at those who do not uphold traditional family values. They also publish longer opinion pieces—Iraq, defense policy in general, and the silliness of the acid rain fuss are among the topics in the September issue. (S-24t/MG)

□**CARPE DIEM** Vol. 1 #1 ($5 from PO Box 2252, Ketchum, ID 83340): A new journal that melds together New Age concerns with environmental and social ones. There's an article about fraternity, a firsthand account of a Near Death Experience, and an argument that it's time to be doing more questioning of authority. They also heavily encourage volunteerism and community. (S-24t/MG)

**CARTOON MARKETS** Oct.& Dec.1990 ($4 from Loyal Pallady, 90 W. Winnipeg Ave. #1, St. Paul, MN 55117-5428): A market newsletter for the professional (or, I suppose, the serious amateur) cartoonist. Loyal lists lots of markets, and warns about non-paying places. They also reprint selected cartoons to show what's getting bought these days. In the Dec. was a thoughtful piece on inventorying your cartoon stock. (S-22/MG/JR)

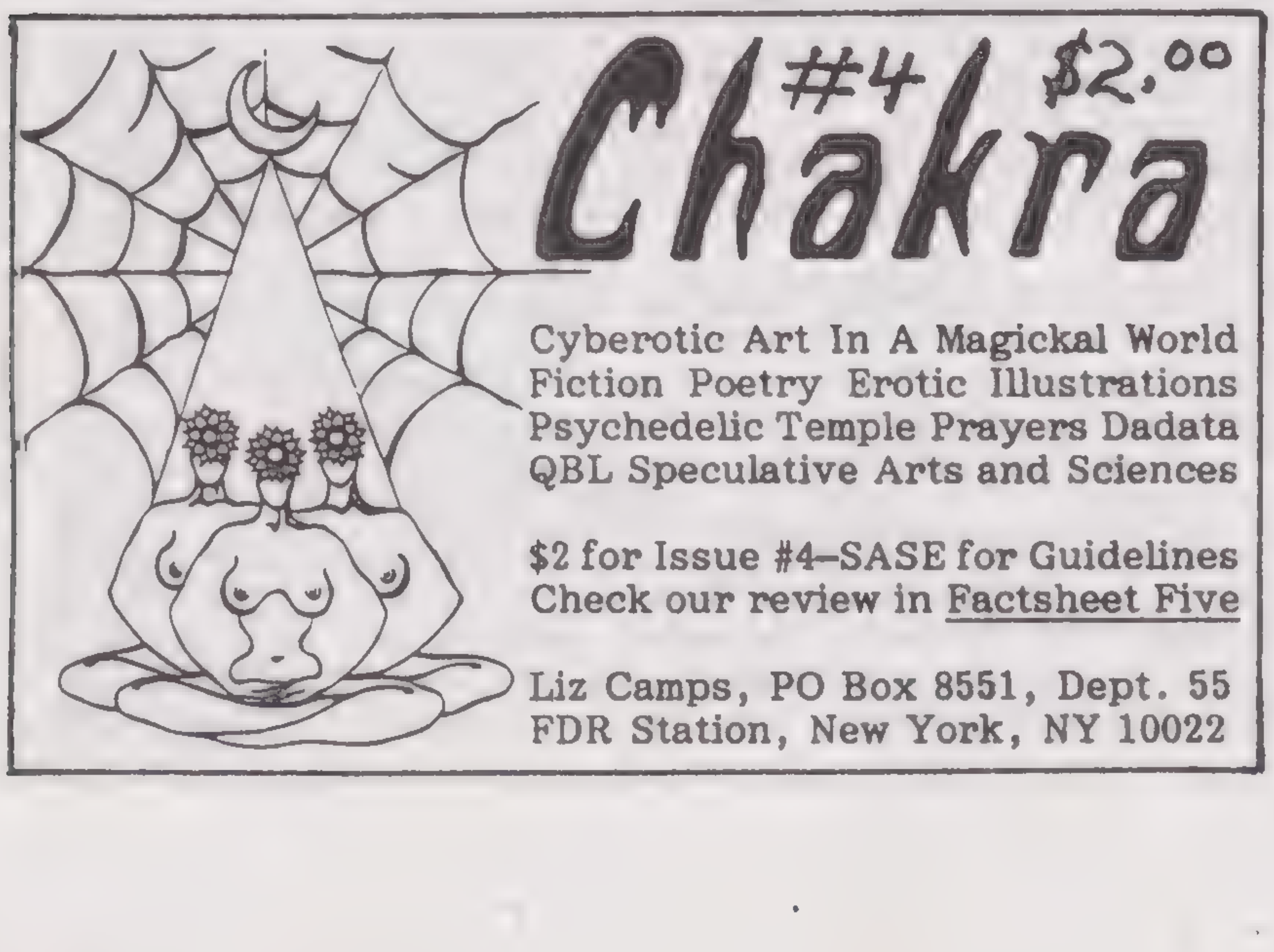
**CATHARSIS** #13-14 ($2 from PO Box 3181, Suffolk, VA 23434): Arts and entertainment and stuff for the Tidewater Virginia population. They keep an eye on local radio and music, comment on the overall state of American culture, review movies and music, run comics, whatever it takes. There's even a staff surrealist looking at classic surrealism. (T-16t/MG)

**CATHEDRAL OF INSANITY** #15 ($2 from Julie Luce, 1216 W. Ivesbrook, Lancaster, CA 93534): Odd litzine of strange violent stories, inexplicable poems, wierd pseudo-humor, and slightly psychedelic ornament. Hard to tell just what their business is. (D-20/JR)

**CAT TALES** Vol.5 #4 (Free from Second Editions, 7951 Babb Ave., Skokie, IL 60077): A bookstore in Skokie, Second Editions prints this newsletter as a friendly open letter to their customers. Book news, publishing dates, contests and updates on the life of Merlyn the Cat are all in here. Also found in #4 is a scary look at some books on a proposed banned list—Judy Blume, Mark Twain, Shel Silverstein, and Dr. Suess all grace this list. It's hard to believe that we live in the 90's. (S-4t/CG)

**CEMETERY DANCE** Vol. 2 #4 ($5 from Richard T. Chizmar, PO Box 858, Edgewood, MD 21040): A fat mag of horror fiction and associated features, including pieces on movies and book reviews. This is a J.N. Williamson special, featuring an interview and a story. Other strong pieces are Barry Hoffman's "Talk Dirty To Me" and David Niall Wilson's "Mole". The authors here don't often pull punches, and there is plenty of disturbing language and imagery. (S-96t/MG)

**CENSORSHIP NEWS** #36 ($25/yr from NCAC, 2 W. 64th St., New York, NY 10023): The newsletter of the National Coalition Against Censorship, this one covers free speech and free press issues all over. Especially troubling in #36 are news of further Federal attempts to destroy businesses by filing multiple suits in different jurisdictions, and the confused state of high school newspaper restraint. (S-8/MG)



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Liz Camps, PO Box 8551, Dept. 55
FDR Station, New York, NY 10022

**CENTRAL PARK** #17/18 ($7.50 from PO Box 1446, New York, NY 10023): This fat litmag weighs in at just shy of a pound and a half, in an attractive perfect-bound format. Inside, the emphasis is on both breaking artistic ground and a politics of resistance; CP is one of the best journals at tying the two together. They present a wide range of works from essays to collages, and if some of the dicier ones miss with me that's likely due to the risks of working beyond the envelope. Many evenings of browsing and thought for the literati here. (S-274t/MG)

**CERC NEWSLETTER** Oct. 1990 ($10/yr from PO Box 81, Floyd, VA 24091): A local community newsletter with a friendly feel. Much of the October issue is concerned with economics, from the point of view of building sustainability and community. They track events in their area and print notes on everything from astrology to education. (S-14/MG)

□**THE CEREOLOGIST** #1 ($18/3 issues from 11 Powis Gardens, London W11 1JG, ENGLAND): A new journal devoted to investigating the crop circle phenomenon in Britain: round areas of crushed grain in the midst of otherwise untouched fields, sometimes in conjunction with other, more baroque patterns. The "conventional" explanations—whirlwinds fungus, hoaxers—indeed seem to fall far short of explaining what is going on. The world is a strange place indeed. (S-20t/MG)

□**CFAC SENTRY** #3 ($10/6 issues from PO Box 540848, Orlando, FL 32854-0848): The newsletter of Central Floridians Against Censorship, a group right down there in the hotseat where 2 Live crew, **CHERRY** comics, and videos of *Pink Flamingos* are all being harassed. This sort of hardcore political opposition might go a long way to take the edge off the censors' zeal. Let's hope so, anyhow. (S-8t/MG)

**CFRA BULLETIN** #87 ($1 (?) from Bob Kirlin, East 7609 Marietta, Spokane, WA 99212): The news from the College Football Researchers Association, a group of folks truly in love with the statistics of the game. In this issue they're discussing the greatest games ever played, correcting the records on the University of Florida, and trying to rank teams from different teams on a single scale. (S-20/MG)

□**CHAI TODAY** Kislev 5751/Dec. 1990 ($2.50 from Capital District Chabad Communal Services, One Commerce Plaza, 54, Albany, NY 12260): This seems to be the Jewish equivalent of Christian magazines like **PLAIN TRUTH**. Slick and colorful, it's full of articles on things like the increased use of kosher wine or the design of refrigerators that do not violate the Sabbath, as well as prophetic articles. (S-40t/MG)

**CHAKRA** #4 ($2 from Liz Camps, PO Box 8551 Dept. F5, FDR Sta., New York, MY 10022): Back after a somewhat lengthy absence, this is the "Drowning in a Drop of Water" issue. Much of the content is erotic, from an opening dream sequence with explicit stylized drawings to a short story about a relationship that ends with a blunt sexual act. In between there's a poem from Ivan Arguelles and a complex and intriguing piece melding art and words from Lorraine Schein. Unsolicited work is welcome. (S-28t/MG)

**CHEAP RELIEF** Vol. 3 #11 ($48/yr from Jean Lawrence, PO Box 11501, Washington, DC 20008-0701): A monthly newsletter for "professional communicators". This issue talks about "the Abilene Paradox", in which organizations go charging off in directions that no individual member wants. There is also material on defusing stress and tips on things like where to get a good price on a fax machine. (S-4/MG)

**CHEESE** #2 (50¢ from 528 Andros Lane, Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937): A little humor mag with lots o' cheese references, some reviews and a bit of errant collage thrown in. Lord Gregory deems cheese a way of life and wants the masses to follow suit. Go figure. (D-6/CG)

**CHICAGO PRECONSCIOUS** Vol. 2 #3 ($3 from William F. Wendt JR., c/o Maxpress, 717 W. Maxwell St., Chicago, IL 60607): A journal that looks at some interconnected themes in Chicago: mass transit, urban renewal, the conspiracy to keep some subjects out of the media and the dubious ethics of the legal profession. Lots here, including arguments for more rational transit, the appelate decision in a case involving the author, notes on con jobs, book reviews and more. (S-64t/MG)

**CHICKEN LITTLE** #28 ($2 from M. Cusimano, PO Box 2665, Harvard Sq. Sta., Cambridge, MA 02238): A coffeehouse-based litzine with a strong social slant—there's plenty of news of tent cities and alternative gubernatorial candidates here. There's also comics from Cusimano and others, poetry from recent readings, rants and song lyrics. A folky feel pervades. (HL-20/MG)

**CHILDREN OF THE EARTH MOTHER NEWS** Mabon 1990 ($12/yr from Children of the Earth Mother, PO Box 1652, Bethany, OK 73008): A pagan journal which seems almost desperately interested in networking and promoting alternative spirituality. In particular, the folks here are spearheading another national Pagan Parents' network, in addition to publishing. There are articles on topics such as the divinatory use of dice and the ethics of misleading about one's beliefs in this issue. (S-20/MG)

**CHIRON REVIEW** Vol. IX #3 ($1.50 from Rt. 2 Box 111, St. John, KS 67576): The nicest thing about this one is the sense of connections it brings to the small press literary scene. The poems, for example, appear with photos and short bios of the poets, and have room to breathe on the page. There are also critical essays and book reviews which help complete the loop from writer to publisher to reader and back. Excellent contributors help, of course: Lorri Jackson, Cheryl Townsend, Charles Bukowski, Timothy Coats, and many more in this issue. (T-40t/MG)

**CHOKEHOLD** #25-26 ($1 from Lance LeVine, 507 W. 43rd Pl., Chicago, IL 60609): A smartass wrestling newsletter. #25 seems to focus on wrestling and the law, with Lance himself in jail (fortunately he finds time to do things like review porno mags) and Larry Sharpe filing multiple suits. #26 has in-depth wild reporting on the Halloween Havoc card. Something to annoy most fans of the game. (S-10/MG)

□**THE CHOPPING BLOCK** #7-11 ($1.00 each from Kit Lively, Rt. 2, Box 146, Celina, TX 75009): A fun romp in which the editor doesn't take himself—or anyone else—too seriously. These pages are filled with witticisms on our culture (Rejected Enquirer Headlines), media ("Talk of the Town" quotes popular celebrities in uncompromising situations), and other accoutrements of living a jocular life. The cartoons are a bit amateurish, but the editorial content makes up for that. Better than having **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC** in your bathroom. (S-10/CG)

**CHRISTIAN*NEW AGE QUARTERLY** vol.2 #4 ($2.50 from Bethsheva's Concern, PO Box 276, Clifton, NJ 07011-0276): This is a re-review, as in the last issue I gave the CNAQ an inept and inaccurate treatment for which I am heartily sorry. This is a strikingly well-written and thoughtful journal, concerned to foster dialogue between Christianity and the New Age. The lead article points out that the uniqueness of Jesus as World-Redeemer is perhaps the only point where New-Age and Christian beliefs are in necessary conflict. A responsible publication: reckless syncretising and re-interpretation are absent—though these might make for a more entertaining read. (HL-20r/JR)

**CHRISTIAN VISION** Oct. 1990 ($5/yr from Skysong Press, RR1 Washago, ONT, L0K 2B0, CANADA): A zine for Christian writers. A large chunk of it is market updates—a useful activity, as most of the other market newsletters make no effort to cover Christian outlets. They also have advice for writers and an interview with Jeff Cooke of **THE OBLIGATOR**. (D-16t/MG)

**CHUBE** #46 ($2? from Box 1624, Madison WI 53701-1624): This was mostly a report, braided out of several diaries, of the doings to at and from Armadillocon. Chatty, amusing and detailed. There was also an account of an "Outward Bound" style schooner trip by an all-woman crew. With humor column, events calendar, &c. (S-18/JR)

**CHUCK'S NEWSLETTER** #19 ($3 from CN, 1060 5th Ave., Suite 4003, San Diego, CA 92101-5102): Personalzine of experiences, past and present, in the mental health care system. This issue covers being overdosed with thorazine ("my 10 weeks as a moron") includes an interview with a schizophrenic patient, and has often drily amusing updates on the residents of his board & care facility. A remarkable glimpse into the lives of those for whom madness is no metaphor. (S-10/JR)

**CHURCH OF THE ETERNAL SOURCE NEWSLETTER** Vol. 3 #1 ($1 (?) from PO Box 7091, Burbank, CA 91510-7091): Newsletter of one of the most fascinating of the Neopagan groups, the Ancient Egyptian Reviuval. Mostly this is notices about Church activities, which recently included an Osirian Mystery Play. Also topical book and music reviews. Foolery and updates for the Pharaohnically inclined. (S-6t/JR)

**THE CLERMONT NUZ** vol.5 #2 ($1(?) from Box 2174, Minneapolis, MN 55402): A personalzine with the garrulous graces of an almanac. One of the cover stories relates a trip back home to Clermont, a blissful vision in the Rockwell style. There's ruminations on the oil war with Iraq, as well as quotes, recipes, and household hints. A very down-home & friendly production. (S-4t/JR)

PLEASE
GO
AWAY!!

**CLIMBING** #122 ($24/yr from PO Box 339, Carbondale, CO 81623): This is simultaneously one of the most beautiful and most terrifying magazines we regularly receive. I say the latter as someone who has trouble making it up on the roof to sweep the chimney, for the focus of **CLIMBING** is on going up large chunks of rock with bare hands, skinny ropes, a few chunks of metal, chalk and determination. The photography is stunning, the news of the sport exhaustive, and the dedication apparent. (S-136t/MG)

**COALITION FOR PRISONERS' RIGHTS NEWSLETTER** Vol. 15 #8-9 (Donation from PO Box 1911, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1911): A linking point for prison activists, many themselves incarcerated, across the country. They're concerned about housing conditions, prison rape, the shoddy level of defense in death penalty cases, and so on. Much of this is short excerpts from letters written behind bars. (HL-8/MG)

**COLLINWOOD REVISITED** #15 ($$4 (?) from Bruce Yarbor, 2306 N. MacArthur, Oklahoma City, OK 73127): A fat zine for fans of *Dark Shadows*—in fact, this issue is twice as thick as usual. Reviews, trivia, lots of fan fiction, reprinted comics and interviews with those who worked on the TV show are all present here. Copying is pretty spotty, but most of it can be puzzled out. (S-100r/MG)

**COLTSFOOT** vol.11 #5 ($10/yr. from Box 313A, Shipman, VA 22971): Clearly written coverage on the appreciation and use of wild plants. Articles touch on medicinal & culinary use, and ponder (to my delight) the scientific names & etymology. Book reviews & recipes round this out. Literate and chatty, embellished with personal anecdotes. Quite charming. (D-22r/JR)

**COMBAT SPORTS** #123 ($2 from PO Box 651, Gracie Sta., New York, NY 10028-0011): With this issue **CS** has gone through a format change, replacing the old full-size mag in the interest of speed and economy. The contents are much the same, quick reports from various wrestling and roller sports federations together with some editorial commentary. Still full of wrestling merchandise for sale, from old zines to videos. (HL-16/MG)

**COMIX RELAY** #8 (75¢ from Rick Howe, 26 Woodland Cir., Columbus, GA 31904): A discussion zine centered in the independent comics world. The main topic right now is the artist versus society—in particular, whether suffering can or does lead to good art. Thoughts from a dozen or so folks are part of the roundtable right now. (M-20/MG)

**COMIX WAVE** #96&97 ($8/12 issues from Clay Geerdes, PO Box 7094, Berkeley CA 94707): Almost a personalzine with a comics focus. #96 complains of the media and corporate-isation of modern life, but has a nice reminiscence/appreciation of the Fox-Crow cartoons of the 40's. #97 mostly rags on R. Crumb for being the same silly misogynist he was 30 years ago, and the apparently quite sadistic Darkman flick. (S-1t/JR)

**COMLINK** #44 ($2 from Allyson M. Dyar, 932 ADS Box 1076R, FPO New York, NY 09571-2105): A science fiction zine concentrating mainly on *Star Trek* and related matters, though as with all SF zines it is impossible to keep letter-writers (here making up the bulk of the pages) on one particular track. Even if you're not into ST, Allyson's notes on a recent move to the Keflavik Naval Base in Iceland are well worth reading. (S-22r/MG)

**COMPOST MODERN LIFE** #6-8 (1 stamp from Sean Wolf Hill, 7625 Casstown-Clark Rd., Casstown, OH 45312): A personal journal of environmental action and simple living. Sean talks about the dangers of disposable diapers, hopes for recycled newsprint, toxic wastes in the home, land management and even making compost. He gives sources and ideas, and tries to cut complex problems down to size. Worth a look. (S-4r/MG)

**COMPOST NEWSLETTER** Samhain 1990 ($2 Sample copy from Valerie Walker, 729 5th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118): Pagans who have fun! Here are magickal recipes, continuing treks into mythology understanding, and other assorted looks at "interesting times." Also in this issue is the next installment of the Victor Mendoza saga—a prisoner who was not able to receive CNL for confusing censorship reasons. (HL-18/CG)

**COMMUNITY** Oct.-Nove. 1990($25/yr from PO Box 131, Albany, NY 12201): A newsletter for the Albany area Gay/Lesbian Community. The October issue, due to coming elections, focuses on those elections that mean more to the lesbian/gay person than most, such as the advent of an open lesbian to the State Assembly and two opposing views on the Cuomo administration. There are also social events, community notes and a helpful article on what to do if you've tested HIV positive. Intelligent and supportive. (S-12t/CG)

**THE COMPLEAT MOTHER** Fall 1990 ($3 from PO Box 209, Minot, ND 58702): A magazine for mothers and others concerned with pregnancy, birth, or raising young kids. They're for alternatives of all sorts: natural births, water births, cloth diapers, breastfeeding, stepmothering, you name it. Most of the magazine is written by readers sharing their experiences, and there's a fine intimacy about it, with plenty of humor. (S-64t/MG)

**COMPOST NEWSLETTER** Mabon 90 ($2 *Checks/MO's only* from Valerie Walker, 729 5th Ave, San Francisco, CA 94118): A pagan/humor newsletter with historical looks at the myth of Gaia, other Greek theogony, magickal recipes, and a rerun of the Joe Montana: Saint piece. The piece de resistance, however, is the anonymous submission of the historical origin of the Goddess of SubGenius—Jomama—"Bob's" pure incestuous line. Can slack be inbred? (HL-19/CG)

**THE CONNECTION** #168-169 ($20/yr from Erwin S. Strauss, PO Box 3343, Fairfax, VA 22038): APA debating anarchism, pacifism, history, points of law, sex &c. Particularly enlivened by Bob Black's participation. A lot of smarties easily provoked to argument. Good intellectual sparring for well read people. (D-88r/JR)

**CONSERVATORY OF AMERICAN LETTERS NEWSLETTER** Fall 90 ($2 from PO Box 88, Thomaston, ME 04861): A group dedicated to preserving the worth and merit of writers who don't pander to mass media marketing. News of conferences, book review plans and updates of the Dan River Anthology are here, as well as some tips for poets and notes on upcoming contests. (S-5/CG)

**CONTACT!** 9/13/90 & 10/15/90 (Donation from Humanist Fellowship of San Diego, PO Box 87662, San Diego, CA 92138): Newsletter of a mixed group of freethinkers, atheists and Humanists in Southern California. They challenge religions, report on Humanism elsewhere in the country, and discuss major historical figures. A few chuckles and a few flames in each issue. (S-12t/MG) In the Oct. issue of this Godbuster group there's an events calendar & updates, sharp responses from the editor to various articles and letters, and criticism of everything from Israel to Mary Shelley on the issue of ideological correctness. Peppy but obsessed. (JR)

**CONTENTIONS** Sept.-Nov. 1990 (Donation from Committee For the Free World, 211 E. 51 St., New York, NY 10022): Witty, literate and usually annoying conservative essays on American culture and society. In the September issue, for example, they go after the alleged shallowness of Hampshire graduates, missing the world-class scholars who owe part of their education to that institution. The November issue has a page of selections from college catalogs, apparently meant to indicate that feminist perspectives are a waste of time and money. (S-4t/MG)

**CONVICTIONS** Vol.1 #3 ($8/yr *Prisoner Rate*; $10/yr *Non-prisoner Rate* from PO Box 1749, Corvallis, OR 97339-1749): The most comprehensive and endorsing of prisoner support journals. Primarily by and about prisoners and prison-related subjects, the magazine looks into almost every aspect of prison life: reforms, treatment, prisons abroad, censorship (it's been confiscated in many prisons for questionable reasons), literature, poetry—et al. Articles that stand out include the comparison of prison philosophy in Sweden and that in the US. (S-49t/CG)

**COOPERATIVES AND COMMUNITY M2M** #65 ($5 from Bill Holden, 49t/CG) 131 Larwin Ave., Cypress, CA 90630): That five bucks will serve to set up an account with this participatory newsletter devoted to exploring the ways in which we can build economic and social bases for community in the coming years. Discussion ranges from refinement of worldviews to experiences in intentional communities to ideas on publicity via the electoral process. Part of Action Linkage, a grassroots attempt to change the world. (S-32r/MG)

**CORPUS CHRISTI MARINER NEWS** #15-17 ($1 from PO Box 1960, Corpus Christi, TX 78403): News and gossip for members of the Merchant Marine around Corpus Christi. David Holiman opens each issue with a page of text, recounting recent voyages, labor news, notes on who's up to what, and bits of marine horoscopes. The second page is devoted to graphics, with photos of mariners, comics and flotsam from trips. (L-2/MG)

**COUNTER INFORMATION** #28 (Donation from Pigeonhole CI, c/o 11 Forth St., Edinburgh, UK): Revolutionary anarchist newsletter detailing continuous news of the Poll Tax in the UK, the new "foreigner laws" in Germany and women worker demonstrations in London. Articles are short and to the point, international in scope. (S-4/CG)

**CREATION/EVOLUTION** #27 ($4 from 7 Harwood Dr., PO Box 146, Amherst, NY 14226-0146): Debates and articles on "Creation Science" and orthodox evolutionary theory. In this issue the debate between Jim Lippard and Walter Brown comes to an end with Lippard's parting shot and Brown's case in disarray—and then the editor promptly announces a new debate on the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics. The idea of a neutral forum is interesting, though it seems to me that the creationists usually end up outgunned here. (D-55t/MG)

**CROSSCURRENTS** #8-9 ($1 from 2316 Delaware Ave. #102, Buffalo, NY 14216): A zine of support and news for the gender community—people uncomfortable with the dictates of society as to their sexuality, and working to change it in one way or another. They've got notes on medical advances, local events, and contacts for other such groups. There's also some pure silliness like a feature on gender bending in the animal kingdom. (HL-12t/MG)

**CRYONICS** Vol. 11 #9-10 ($25/12 issues from Alcor, 12327 Doherty St., Riverside, CA 92503): Looking good in its new full-size format, this is one of the best place to read about the dreams and science of preserving dead people for an eventual return to life. #9 looks at the case for neurosuspension (as opposed to freezing whole bodies) and contains further discussion of the costs of cryonics. #10 reports on another suspension and contains summaries of a recent conference. (S-24t/MG)

☐**CUBE** #45 ($4.50/6 issues from SF3, PO Box 1624, Madison, WI 53701): A brief SF clubzine which promises big things in the future but doesn't exactly deliver them in the present. This issue isn't *bad*, just lackluster, with a few book reviews, the Hugo winners, and a tad on club business. But let's give new editor Andrew Hooper a chance and see what happens. (S-6t/MG)

**CULTWATCH RESPONSE** Vol. 2 #6 ($2 from PO Box 1842, Colorado Springs, CO 80901-1842): This one exists to help law enforcement personnel deal rationally with the lurid stories of satanic and pagan crime we hear so much about. In addition to countering this nonsense, they print reports of crime directed *at* pagans, and give pointers to resources for further study. A solid and useful organization. (HL-16r/MG)

**CURRENTS** vol.2 #1 ($5 from PO Box 962, Riverdale, MD 20737): A literate and open minded unofficial journal of Unificationist (Rev. Moon) thought and culture. Articles on the divine feminine, syncretism, personality theory, & Eastern Europe. Conservative and intellectual. (S-24t/JR)

**THE CURSOR** Sept./Oct. 1990 ($2 from Washington Area Commodore User Group, PO Box 3602, Fairfax, VA 22038-3602): There may be other publications this good for the Commodore computer enthusiast, but I don't know any. They review machines and software, give instructions for hardware modifications, and distribute lots of shareware on diskettes. The newsletter also has special sections for Amiga and MS-DOS users. A nice enthusiastic zine. (S-28t/MG)

☐**CYBERNETIK RENAISSANCE** #1 ($1.50 or *fair trade* from Vyral Infekted Produktions, c/o Vi Lewis, 111 East Drake Road, Suite #7088, Ft. Collins, CO 80525): A new kind of literary punk zine that tries to bridge the gap between cyberpunk and a "renewed desire for knowledge," so it it aptly named. But after the introduction it veers off into a band interview (City of Worms), political comics with Reagan urinating on his constituents, and a call for nuclear disarmament through lobby and letterwriting efforts. A little ambivalent, but headed in the right direction. (HL-16/CG)

**CYBERTEK** #2-3 ($10/yr from OCL/Magnitude, PO Box 64, Brewster, NY 10509): A rather apocalyptic "Cyberpunk Technical Journal". They feature a selection of articles on technical topics like illegal FM broadcasting, data tapping, and so on. There are also a number of social articles on the justifications for hacking, the need for illegal revenge, and other goodies. Seems almost a bit out of control. (S-16/MG)

**CYGNET COMMITTEE** Vol. 1 #2 (2 stamps from Brixton Kent, PO Box 366, Tucson, AZ 85702-0366): The main focus here is on animal rights and urging people to think about veganism, but Brixton gets off on some other tangents as well. There's a centerfold anti-Bush poster, a recounting of a visit to the cop shop, and more. Some music and zine reviews too. (D-32/MG)

**DADDY** #5 ($18/4 issues & Age Statement from PO Box 5325, Harrisburg, PA 17110-5325): A hardcore gay zine for those men who go for "prime beef, aged to perfection". They feature photo sessions of daddies, stories about sexual encounters, and a growing section of personal ads. Put together with both love and talent, this looks like a high-budget item and reads hot even to outsiders. (D-96t/MG)

**DAILY COW** #5 ($1 from David R. Wyder, 121 Gregory Ave. #B-7, Passaic, NJ 07055): Here's one for the bovine-lovers. It's a mix of true cow news and flights of fancy—the lead story in this issue is all about the invasion of Cowait. There are reader's cow pix, the "Cownty Jail", and plenty of other similarly horrid puns. Cownt on some fun from this one. (S-20/MG)

**DAWN IS UGLY** #3 ($2 from DIU 5231 Elton Place, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055): Collection of interesting info: notes on the anti-poster law, peyote legality, Santeria, Animal Rights, &c., with Poetry, book, record and zine reviews, and personals ads from young punks. Exceedingly well informed and calmly curious. A little more focus and depth would probably help, but still it's hard to think of a person who wouldn't learn something new from this zine. (S-18/JR)

**D.C.** ($1 from Katrina Kelly, PO Box 624, Sherburne, NY 13460): A mix of humor, personal messages and whatnot. Katrina asks that you leave the zine name off the envelope; it changes all the time anyhow. Inside this issue there are worries about Zamfir's satanic connections, a review of a huge batch of disco music, a bunch of reasons to read Stephen King, and more. (S-10/MG)

**THE DEFENSE MONITOR** Vol. XIX #6 ($1 from Center for Defense Information, 1500 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20005): Alternative analysis of the world's military from folks who are still fairly tied to the power structure—in this case, they support effective but not excessive defense. The issue at hand is fascinating, analyzing Japan's military (certainly larger than I knew) and suggesting that now is the time for the US to withdraw. (S-8t/MG)

☐**DELVE** #5 ($3 from Gene Duplantier, 17 Shetland St., Willowdale, ONT, M2M 1X5, CANADA): A UFO magazine with a weirdly comprehensive net to cast. They reprint an article on an 1897 "airship" and stuff from the 50's and 60's, as well as bits of current research and current tabloids. The main thrust seems to be towards sensational conspiracy theories, and references are often a tad lacking. Fun and outrageous. (S-20r/MG)

**DEMETERS EMERALD** Nov. 1990 (50¢ from 2205 Lake Tahoe Blvd. #2A, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150): An irregularly-published pagan journal aimed mainly at parents. Articles range from one on umbilical cord care to notes on what to do with the kids. They also round up a bunch of contacts and pointers and make them available. (D-24r/MG)

**DEMOLITION DERBY** #2 (Donation from Michael William, CP 1554, Succ. "B", Montreal, Quebec, H3B 3L2, CANADA): A rather theoretical anarchist journal with an announced "anti-civilization" orientation. This issue has three harsh critiques of feminism by modern women, news about the Mohawks, and a few revolutionary tracts. There is also a long and rather tedious letter section in which various anarcho-syndicalists and others who feel gored try to refute an article on their views which appeared in #1. (T-40t/MG)

**DE NAR** #48 ((?) from V.Z.W. De Nar, Postbus 104, 1210 Brussel 21, Belgium): There is no price on the cover, but if you can read Dutch, you might be able to find it. A news, media and culture journal with intelligent-looking articles (from this langua-centric point of view). Also looks like movie and book reviews and a bit of a humorous feel to it. (D-16/CG)

**DE NAR** # 49 ($2? from v.z.w. De Nar, Postbus 104, 1210 Brussel 21, Belgium): I think the title means "The Fool." An alternative newsletter and events calendar, in Dutch, with zine and music reviews, letters, illustrations &c., all with an anti-authoritarian slant. (D-20r/JR)

**DENDRON** #19 ($10/yr from PO Box 11284, Eugene, OR 97440): A zine from mental patients fighting for their rights as human beings. The main charge they're leading these days is against electroshock, which is having a bit of fashionable resurgence as an alternative to drugging people. They present plenty of evidence that people are still being lied to and coerced against their best interest. The account of lobotomies in here is also pretty stomach-turning. On the hopeful side, they find allies, contacts and events to report on. (T-8t/MG)

**DEPROGRAM** Back-to-school issue ($1 *Cash/Stamps* from PO Box 4542, Seattle, WA 98104): A medley of strange cultural images and scare tactics from the fringes of society. There's a McDonald's ad from Pakistan (juxtaposed with news of the International Communist Conspiracy), the latest Sonic Youth release, that evil Cyberpunk game, and more. Clippings and photocopy art abound. (S-16r/MG)

**DEVACHAN** Vol. 1 #4 ($15/4 issues from Lynne Parcells, 1310 Sussex, Portage, MI 49002-2625): A growing journal of art and opinion with ties to MENSA but accessible to most anyone. Among the goodies in this issue are a thoroughly disgusting post-apocalyptic comic, "The Truth About Hansel and Gretel", a delightful parable about the dangers of free expression, and ominous warnings about a US plan to take back the Panama Canal. The letters are always interesting as well, thanks largely to the strong personality of the editor, who comments indecorously or respectfully as she sees fit. (S-56t/MG)

**DHARMA COMBAT** #10 ($3 from Jim Keith, PO Box 20593, Sun Valley, NV 89433): Though the pages are inconveniently large, there's much worth struggling with here, from excursions into the Masonic links of the Qabala to marginal character assassination as Bob Black goes another round against the SubGenials. There's Gemstone-style conspiracy theories, comments from various esoteric figures, and the lack of blue M&Ms. A mind-blowing selection of alternative realities. (O-34r/MG)

☐**DIAMOND HITCHHIKER COBWEBS** #1 ($3 *CASH* from 118 E. Goodheart Ave., Lake Mary, FL 32746): A fat zine with hand coloring and a shiny cover and a little plastic toy and other personal touches. Inside it's a mix of reprints and collages, tantric sex, poetry, zine reviews, ecstatic writings, and more. It's also heavily musk-scented, making it a multi-sensual experience. (HL-96/MG)

**DIARIST'S JOURNAL** #35 ($2 from 102 W. Water St., Lansford, PA 18232): A continuing forum for those interested in he fine art of journal keeping. Composed almost entirely of diary excerpts, this one ranges from classics to things written 50 years ago right through last week. The range of subject and feeling is always interesting, and their reprints and original essays prove that the interest is widespread. (T-20t/MG)

**THE DICK E. BIRD NEWS** Aug.-Nov. 1990 ($12/yr or $1 sample copy from PO Box 377, Acme, MI 49610): For any and all information on birds, feeders, habitats and small furry things in your yard, look here. Articles are light-hearted and informative, and the paper has a friendly home-town feel to it. Trouble with suet seems to be the order of the day, with hints on how to get around pesty rodents. (O-12t/CG)

**DIE FAT PIGGY DIE!** #12-13 (25¢ from UTJSEN Recordings, PO Box 134, Waynesville, MO 65583): Social commentary by way of satanism, satire and smirk. Dissatisfied with the present problems of being young, the editors here strike back with PMRC ratings, letters about censorship, and some magic tricks. Some music thrown in to round it all out. I, naturally, found Joe Franke's ode to black coffee particularly moving (#12). (D-12/CG)

☐**THE DIGGER** #1 ($10/5 issues from University of Chicago DSA, 1212 E. 59th St., Chicago, IL 60637): A new student-oriented zine from the Democratic Socialists of America, a movement which seems to be spawning a lot of zines these days. This one seems to presume that students are interested in theory and academic analysis, from reviews of books to debate on ideas of international politics to trying to grow a positive definition of socialism. Maybe it's so at the U of C, but it never was at my universities. (S-16t/MG)

☐**DISTURBING DREAMS & DRIED BLOOD** #4 (50¢ from Kevin Hibshman, 43 Front St., Lititz, PA 17543): A collection of essays, poetry, music reviews and other goodies. They've got Sonic Youth and the Pixies, poems about truth and illusion, and exhortations to vote. Also appears to be interested in reviving the local scene. (D-16/MG)

☐**THE DRACHIR NOTSHURT NEWSLETTER** #1-2 (50¢ (?) from Anthony Darryl Davis, PO Box 369105, Chicago, IL 60636-9998): A newsletter from and for the youth of the African-American community. It combines mysticism with hints of Freemasonry and notes on proper nutrition with notes on inventions and entrepreneurship by Black people. Editorials encourage independent thought and self-supporting action. (L-2/MG)

**RACONIAN MEASURES** #2 ($2 from Zenith Beast, PO Box 191671, San Francisco, CA 94119-1671): A litzine which doesn't stick too closely to the genre boundaries, containing an interview with Margo Timmons and a lament for the vanishing LP as well as the usual poetry and prose. Chris Causey shines with the bizarre short story "When A Stone Loses Its Luster". On the poetic side, try the short sharp blurts of Gina Bergamino. (D-40r/MG)

**DRAFT NOtices** Vol. 11 #5-6 ($10/yr from COMD, PO Box 15195, San Diego, CA 92175): #5 starts out with a banner headline, "U.S. OUT NOW!" and goes on to consider what the Mideast situation means to anti-draft activists (they also include some counters to common arguments for our military presence in the region). Inside are notes on the local and national campaigns to demilitarize the schools and an update on nukes in the harbor. #6 has more war worries and a list of progressive fiction suitable for holiday gift-giving. (S-10t/MG)

☐**DRAPETOMANIA** #1 (50¢ (?) from John Burt, 960 SW Jefferson Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333): A personalzine from John, which starts off with his history of zine publishing and then gets into the joys of raising a young son, caffeine addiction, and a map of their house. The title really is a word, even if neither my word processor nor I knew it before this. (D-8r/MG)

☐**DREAMSTREETS** #16 ($1 (?) from PO Box 4593, Newark, DE 19715): A small litmag which is free around Newark. It's a nice idea, but the work in this issue is not too impressive. Steven Leech in particular seems to think that pidgin grammar makes for a believable future argot rather than a continuous annoyance in his story. (S-8t/MG)

☐**THE DREAMWEAVER** Vol. 1 #2 (Donation from Ladyhawk, PO Box 150692, Ft. Worth, TX 76108): A "monthly newsletter dedicated to all positive life paths". There's a Native American slant here, as well as a fascination with dreams and visualization. Barter and community help are other concerns that come through strongly. (D-20/MG)

**THE DROOD REVIEW OF MYSTERY** #101-102 ($20/12 issues from PO Box 8872, Boston, MA 02114): A solid review journal that looks at current mysteries. #101 is mostly short takes, along with their quarterly update on forthcoming books. Always useful reading. #102 focuses on "Mysteries With a Conscience", looking at the genre's treatment of socially significant issues. (S-20t/MG)

**DUMARS REVIEWS** #9 ($2 [no trades] from Denise Dumars, PO Box 810, Hawthorne, CA 90251): Denise reviews a little of everything: zines, theater, restaurants, low-fat foods, real magazines, even libraries (this time the Richard Nixon Presidential Library!). She's in touch with modern literature and provides some fresh poetry as well. Her critiques tend to be incisive and give out both credit and blame where they're due. (D-32r/MG)

**THE DUPLEX PLANET** #109 ($1.25 from David Greenberger, PO Box 1230, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866): The underground's answer to **INTERVIEW** is still going strong as David talks to elderly friends. There's a classic response in this issue, as John Hodorowski confides to a friend about David's questions: "He's had all weekend to think them up. I think he's got a couple accomplices, too." (D-16/MG)

**EARTH ACTION NETWORK** Oct. 1990 ($6/yr from 1711-D Martin Luther King Way, Berkeley, CA 94709): A newspaper of resistance on a variety of fronts—marches, direct actions against condos, demonstrations at the stock exchange, concerts, National Days of Protest, and more. They present a long list of politically correct actions, telling folks out in the Bay area when and where to get involved. Something for leftists of every stripe here. (T-8t/MG)

**EAT MY HOLE** ($2 & Age Statement from John Largaespada, 2530 Clinton Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55404): A cut-up and photocopy-manipulated set of stories by one of the folks behind **LOSING FAITH** magazine. Vietnam combat and Betty Page mix with PENTHOUSE-style letters and collaged sex-rag illustrations. Not for the prudish. (S-28/MG)

☐**ECOL NEWS** Vol. 12 #2 (On request from Environmental Conservation Library, Minneapolis Public Library and Information Center, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401): A somewhat academic journal of ecological matters. This issue features a long article on what wetlands are, why they're important, and what happens when we screw around with them. There's also a section of short reviews of books like **ALTERNATIVE CROPS FOR MINNESOTA** and **UNDERGROUND TANK LEAK DETECTION METHODS.** (S-4t/MG)

**ECOMEDIA** #83-87 (Donation from PO Box 915, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT, M4Y 2N9, CANADA): Anarchist news and views from Canada, still somehow operating on the proverbial shoestring. #83 is mostly about the Mohawk Nation, now a bit dated by the pass of events. They also look at some other native issues. #85 had more on the Mohawks, the recession in Canada, and the cancellation of a "colonialist" museum exhibit. With events calendar. (HL-4t/MG/JR)

**ECOSOCIALIST REVIEW** Vol. 4 #3 ($1 from Chicago DSA, 1608 N. Milwaukee, 4th Fl., Chicago, IL 60647): This one is for Democratic Socialists who also happen to be Greens, or at least moving in that direction. They explicitly deny that market forces can solve environmental probelms, and try to develop alternatives. This issue looks in large part at the situation in New Jersey, large parts of which are as dismal as stereotype would have you believe. There is also a fair amount on internal movement politics here. (S-16t/MG)

**EDGE CITY VIEW** Vol. 1 #2 (SASE from Mack White, PO Box 49575, Austin, TX 78765): Stories, cartoons, and other creative stuff. There's a great cover account from Jim Bentley about an odd job as a silo fumigator. Inside, the short fiction excerpt about a janitor's obsession is disturbing as well as scatological. Good bathroom reading, short interesting bites. (HL-8t/MG)

**ENCHANTÉ** #7 ($12/4 issues from John Yohalem/Enchanté, 30 Charlton St. #6F, New York, NY 10014): A journal of urbane paganism. Besides the always enjoyable pagan soap opera "All my Avatars", this issue has hints on making planetary oils quickly, and another new Qabala directed for those not into authoritarian religions. Bits of poetry and stories and etymology and advice for witches abound. (S-24t/MG)

**ENDEAVOR** Vol. 1 #5 (Donation from PO Box 23511, Houston, TX 77228-3511): A newspaper produced by death row inmates in the Texas state prison system. Their writings make it clear as nothing else can how brutally they're treated, even before being killed by the minions of the state. It's somewhat amazing that men with so little left can write such strong and caring material. Something that should be read by everyone who stands in opposition to the death penalty. (T-8t/MG)

☐**ENVIO** Vol. 9 #109/110-111 ($4 from Central American Historical Institute, Intercultural Center, Georgetown University, Washington, DC 20057): A monthly journal of analysis of the situation in Nicaragua. Double issue #109/110 came out after 100 days of the UNO government and is packed with news about labor problems, inflation, the actions of the FSLN and the far rightists, and other things that never make the news here any more. The slant seems a bit left, but generally balanced. Very serious and well-documented. (S-56t/MG)

**EPISTULATIONAL EXSCRAPTS** #3 40¢ & a stamp from Geof Huth, RD 5, Currybush Rd., Schenectady, NY 12306): Short cuts from letters to Geof, along with repartee that he didn't necessarily think to make at the time. I never realized that "thing" and "night" were anagrams before reading this. (S-1t/MG)

☐**ETC** Vol.2 #1($3 from PO Box 5367, Kingwood, TX 77325): A new zine entirely devoted to European trash cinema, a genre the editor gave up American cinema for. Most titles are unfamiliar to me, but look like great fun, such as the filmography of Joe D'Amato, The Return of the Evil Dead, and a biased look at ETC. For those fed up with our own trash, this is a good place to go for respite. (D-30t/CG)

**ETHEL THE AARDVARK** #32 (A$12/yr from Melbourne Science Fiction Club, PO Box 212, Melbourne, Victoria 3005, AUSTRALIA): A fairly serious Australian SF zine. It's got convention reports and book reviews (as well as a continuing series of articles on book covers), letters and zine reviews. There's also the occasional odd feature, such as the round robin story in this issue. There's also a bit of an index to STARBURST magazine. (A4-28t/MG)

☐**EUGENICS OF THE POSTMODERN SPLEEN** #1 ($1 from Phobrek Hai, Box 1745 Colby College, Waterville, ME 04901): Booklet of literary pieties, little collage and text enshrined photos of the gods of noir lit: Rimbaud, Burroughs, Henry Miller, Mishima. Nice as a tribute, but all a lot dated. Where are Bey, Metzger, Black & Ackerman? The same idea with them would have made this reader's pulse race. Nice work, but 20 years out of date. (HL-16/JR)

**EVERYONE'S BACKYARD** Vol. 8 #5 ($25/yr from CCHW, PO Box 926, Arlington, VA 22216): All the news about major polluters, toxic waste, the rubbish industry, and what you need to do about fighting them. The Citizen's Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes is into grassroots organizing, and they offer plenty of legal and political advice. They also print state by state news and longer articles. (S-040t/MG)

☐**EXEAT** #1 ($7 & Age Statement from Thormynd Press, , PO Box 4, Church Stretton, Shropshire, ENGLAND): A new left-hand path journal which intends to cover controversial material. That they do, with a piece on incest and another on a sexual relationship between teacher and student in this issue. There's also instructions for a magickal working to disrupt large corporations, which looks as if it should be rather effective if you get away with it. (A4-10/MG)

**EXPERIMENT IN WORDS** Vol.1 #5 ($6/3 issues from Robert W. Howington, PO Box 470186, Ft. Worth, TX 76147): While A BUG IN MY FRIES MAGAZINE rests quietly in its grave, this new incarnation leaps forward with strange and "experimental" prose and poetry. The editor takes immodest pride in this accomplishment. Chris Sumberg's award-winning story stands out—a writer writing about a writer—and should be read at least twice (as with most work here). (s-18/CG)

**EXTRA!** Vol. 3 #7 ($30/yr from FAIR, 175 Fifth Ave. #2245, New York, NY 10010): A publication which keeps an eye on big media, documenting the ways in which they act to uphold the status quo in America. This is a special issue, entirely devoted to labor issues, showing how they mainly go unreported or underreported, whether we're talking network TV, PBS, or the newspapers. Includes a list of the top ten ignored labor stories. (A-16t/MG)

**FAKE OPTOPHOBIA** #2 ($1 & a stamp from 430 Lake George Rd., Seville, FL 32190): A zine that has a slapped-together feel to it, as though they started just pouring text on the pages and stopped when they were full. They've got a White Boy mini, some comics, writings from a lonely Midwest youth, and more. Strange stories and drawings of fried eggs also lurk here. (S-12/MG)

**FANS OF HORROR** #10 ($2 from Joseph Olszewski JR., 2802 Shelley Rd., Philadelphia, PA 19152.): Written and illustrated by and for the highschool gorehound, the material here is crude but exuberant, and sometimes unintentionally droll: "The knife wouldn't sink. He wished he'd removed the wooden handle before he dropped it in..." Articles cover topics like film-collecting & TV horror movies, and there's many a letter from the charged-up readers. (S-25/JR)

**FANTASY FEDERATION** Vol. 2 #7 ($3/3 issues from 50 Shelley Ln., Great Neck, NY 11023): This issue takes a quick break from its usual format to look back on the state of the major wrestling promotions as 1990 draws to a close. Then it's back to the standard—wrestling fiction written by readers, featuring matches they'd like to see. Every fan his own booker with this zine. (S-8r/MG)

**FANTOD** Once-Doce (3 stamps from Jim S., PO Box 65034, Washington, DC 20035-5034): This is a bizarre little zine. It starts with a collage of stories, childhood sexual memories, fisting, weird out of context sentences, artwork, and whatnot. Towards the end they always throw in one page of straightforward record reviews, but before that, inscrutability is definitely the key. (S-7t/MG)

**FAR CORNER** Vol. 1 #3 (50¢ *CASH/stamps* from Obscure Research Labs, PO Box 15266, Santa Rosa, CA 95402): A zine of flying saucers and other strange stuff. In this issue they review the latest round of UFO-oriented videotapes (most are lacking) and discuss a new theory to account for cattle mutilations. There's a piece on magic and science, and a wonderful experiment with mailing a dollar bill. (D-8r/MG)

**FARM PULP** #3 ($1 from 1404 N. 41st St., Seattle, WA 98103): Very cool, mostly reprinted zine of counterculture. The copying is excellent, making it hard to distunguish reprinted mainstream or otherstream clips from original pieces. Flotsam from everywhere, including articles on the Apathy of the American Youth, Farting in Our Times, and Timothy Leary on "Cyberia"— realities that are self-created through computers. There's also a map of the US delineating places where FP has assumedly had coffee. Cyberpulp for thinkers. (S-23/CG)

☐**FASHION** Fall Collection '90 ($30 from Carol Stetser, PO Box 20081, Village of Oak Creek, AZ 86341): A multi-artist collection of original artwork, with contributions from 29 people worldwide. Most do address the question of fashion, with only one making the obvious (and overworked) connection to fascism. Strange new uniforms, colorful photocopies, collages, fashion statements taken bizarrely out of context, and more, all in a neat velobinding. (S-39/MG)

**FATAL VISIONS** #9 ($3 and 2 IRCs from PO Box 133, Northcote, VIC 3070, AUSTRALIA): A movie zine from Australia, where they're still struggling with heavy censorship of imported films. On the other hand, as a special section shows, they do get more Hong Kong movies than we do. Other features include a Jack Stevenson tour diary, an interview with John Wayne Gacy and one with Jodorowsky, and plenty of reviews of new and nasty movies. (A4-32t/MG)

**THE FEAT SHEET** Vol.3 #4($1 Sample copy from Derrick Eagle, 818 W. 55th St., Kansas City, MO 64114): "The newsletter for Footbag Enthusiasts"—probably more familiar to the layperson as "hacky sacks." Articles promoting the sport, peacework and jazz music while playing are here, plus notes on solar cars and how to send a tournament mailing. (S-7/CG)

☐**THE FELIX LETTER** #53-55 ($1 Sample copy from PO Box 7094, Berkeley, CA 94707): Clara Felix, a nutrition writer puts out this bimonthly newsletter, which promotes health and nutrition, that's readable, plus medicinal information and anecdotes. Personal and lively writing includes alternatives to gluten in breads for those with celiac disease, the pros and cons of oxygen; fish-oil capsules and their capabilities

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and an expose on the trans fatty acid margarine monster. (S-4/CG)

**FENRIR** Vol. II #2 ($7 from Brekekk, PO Box 109, Newport, Gwent, S. Wales, NP6 1XZ, UK): A journal of left hand magic, this issue full of rituals from the past and present. They give several strong warnings that the writings about sacrifice are historical and symbolic only, but you can bet the hysterics will ignore those parts. Bits of an incredibly complex spiritual system surface here, from chants to sigils to odd ways of celebration. (A4-48/MG)

**FERMENT** vol.V #14 ($2? from Roy Lisker, 152 Kisor Rd., Highland, NJ 12528): This is a single, long scholarly article on "The Cripple Factor," the theory that it's safe to export all kinds of weapons to the third world on the assumption that "the wogs" will never figure out how to use it anyway. There are also details on the peculiar profitability of having third world proteges as tax shelters &c. Scary and probably accurate. With bibliography. #15 has the editor making travel plans to last for nine months and a very discerning review of the book **THE BEST OF ABBIE HOFFMAN**, plus blueprints for four polyforms. (D-29r/JR/CG)

**FIGMENT** #5 ($4 from PO Box 3566, Moscow, ID 83843-0477): A classy little zine of small press horror and fantasy. Dean Wesley Smith sends out delicious shudders with "Play With Uncle Freddie", while "The Fix" by F.A. McMahan has a rather surprising ending. Plenty more here, including work from William Raley, Lori Ann White, and many more. (D-52t/MG)

**FISH DRUM** #6 ($10/4 issues from 626 Kathryn Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87501): This is the "How To" issue of this litmag dreamed up by How-To editor Miriam Sagan. The short essays range from "How To Tap Dance" to "How To Transport Beluga Whales." Each of these compositions are written from a knowledgable stance, and they bring pathos, humor and individuality with them. Favorites include Merritt Clifton's "How To Survive and Beat the System" and Mary Shapiro's "How To Change Something." I hope there is a sequel to this edition. (D-40t/CG)

□**FIST** #3 (£2 from 2, Abernethy Road, London SE13 5QJ, ENGLAND): The apotheosis of fanzines, a huge glossy well laid-out and proofread number. Here Pere Ubu pontificates absolute banality, some less memorable band kvetches about other musicians, and Stewart Home is very entertaiingly interviewed: a music plagiarist and poetry fake—as he proudly announces—he mocks the cultural scenes he happily scams. Also there's scary collages, fiction about retching in this lousy world, and a whole series of S&M images scattered through, with subtitles to let us know what losers we all are. A splendid representation of cheerless hipness. (O-30t/JR)

**FLIMSIE EXCUSE** #136-139 (On request from Frederick J. Liddle, 404 Erie Ave., Tampa, FL 33606): This is Fred's zine for AAPA, the American Amateur Press Association. As such it is perhaps more of a way to show off type and printing than anything else, with the contents deliberately kept light. A few chuckles in every issue, to be sure. Recently Fred was awarded the "Inimitable Amateur Journalist of the Decade of the Eighties" and blushes at his acceptance. (M-4t/MG/CG)

**FLY** Aug.-Oct. 1990 ($1 from POB 5554 Stn. A, Toronto, ONT, M5W 1N7 CANADA): The zine that thinks it's a postcard. August has printed maps and anatomic details plus decals advocating something to do with information systems. September is the special "Spanish Fly" issue, with the words entirely in that language and actually mailed from Spain. Delphic. October is a similar German follow-on. (M-2t/JR/MG))

**FOCUSING IN ON THE MAN IN THE MOON NEWSLETTER** #4 ($1 Sample from Sal Robert Pauciello, 9 Stanley St., Irvington, NJ 07111): A journal of "interactive expression," this issue deals exclusively with the "War on Drugs," quoting freely from Alan Watts, Abbie Hoffman and Jesus. Poetry on the subject ranges from simple to stirring with contributions from Lamont Steptoe, Edward Mycue and Weinman among others, plus David Castleman's somewhat protracted discourse on complacency. (S-20/CG)

□**FOLLOW, FOLLOW** #13-14 ($2 *CASH* from PO Box 539, Glasgow, G11 7LT, UK): "The Rangers Fanzine", this is one of numerous football (i.e., soccer) fanzines in the British Isles (they even call them "fanzines). There's photos of the team, reportage on games, speculation about league politics, weird comics, Rangers in the news, and so on. Bizarrely fascinating. (D-48t/MG)

□**FOLLY** #2-3 (The Usual from Arnie Katz, 330 S. Decatur #152, Las Vegas, NV 89107): A science fiction fanzine from a long-gafiated fan, now back after 15 years to dispense wisdom and humor once again. Included in this issue is a fine article on numbered fandoms, which helped straighten out some confusion for at least this upstart neofan. Arnie also writes of life in the video-game business, and Joyce Worley Katz provides a wonderful article on an amazing cross-country move. In #3 Arnie absolves fen everywhere from gafia-guilt and declares the advent of the forgivable Fringefan. (S-18/MG/CG)

**FOSFAX** #141 ($3 from FOSFA, PO Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-1781): Thanks to the miracle of laserprinting, this SF zine now has even more words than ever before, a veritable convention in print every issue. The comparison is apt, since letters commenting on letters commenting on... (well, you get the idea) make up half the issue. The other half is con reviews and book reviews and wit (giant robot tariffs here) and science and hackers and, oh, zillions of things. (S-60t/MG)

**FRACTAL REPORT** #11($23/6 issues from J. de Rivaz, West Towan House, Porthtowan, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 8AX, UK): A zine for those interested in the Mandelbrot set and other fractal images. This issue includes reviews of several books including Pickoiver's excellent overview and a list of a dozen shareware and public domain programs. Much of the published code is specific to various micros sold only in the UK, but the algorithms and pictures are of course universal. I just wish they could afford color printing. (A4-20t/MG)

□**FRANKFORT INDEX** Vol. 93 #43-44 ($1 (?) from PO Box 181, Frankfort, KS 66427): An alternative political journal which seems to be espousing a sort of leftist populism, calling for citizen action and decrying actions such as the sending of troops to the Mideast. They look at the current electoral scene in Kansas and talk about the coming banking crisis as well. #44 repeats the current stories about the suppression of hemp by big business and calls for the troops in Saudi Arabia to come home. (T-8t/MG)

**FREE INQUIRY** Vol. 10 #4 ($5 from PO Box 5, Buffalo, NY 14215-0005): A magazine of humanism and free thought that explores all manner of current issues from the perspective of the nonreligious. This time there's a special section on feminism, as well as fine words on censorship and rights, the right to die, and the religious situation in the Middle East. (S-64t/MG)

**FREE MY PEOPLE** Vol.1 #6 (Donation from FMP c/o 328 Warren St., Roxbury MA 02119): A Black youth newsletter, addressing Mandela, struggle in Liberia, sexual mores, the 2 Live Crew arrest & more. A pretty brave and successful shot at community-building with almost no adult assistance. Well written. (S-8t/JR)

**FREEZINE** Vol. 3 #1 (Donation from PO Box 1465, Troy, NY 12180): An anarchist zine loosely anchored in one of the local university communities, that goes in for a multifold approach to the subject, including plays and poems as well as essays. Ed D'Angelo writes more about drug laws in this issue, Karl Francis gives us a picture of the recent Billy Graham Crusade in Albany, and Waldemar Lopez-Pineiro discusses the political charade of our treatment of Puerto Rico. (S-20t/MG)

**FRIENDS OF PEACE PILGRIM** #10 (donation from 43480 Cedar Ave., Hemet, California 93244): Mostly this relates John and Ann Rush's successful distribution of Pilgrim's collected sayings: e.g., 10,000 copies of mini version have just been printed in Tamil (the english version of this book reviewed in this issue.) Other items are newsbriefs of peacemaker interest and testimonials from people who knew Pilgrim. A fascinating glimpse of how a saint first becomes an organisation. (S-8t/JR)

**FRIENDS OF THE TREES NEWSLETTER** Aug. 1990 ($10/yr from PO Box 1064, Tonasket, WA 98855): A newsletter collating international efforts for sustainable forestry, careful management, reforestation, permaculture and other alternatives to traditional destruction of forests. It gives plenty of links to other periodicals and groups and conferences, and has some innovative ideas on forest management. Always in need of donations. (S-16t/MG)

**FRIGHTEN THE HORSES** #3 ($4 from Heat Seeking Publishing, 41 Sutter St. #1108, San Francisco, CA 94104): Sex and related topics in a magazine which dares to push the boundaries. There's an Annie Sprinkle interview with photos, news from the legal front, gay fiction, and reprints of an angry queer pamphlet. The sexual revolution is still going strong here, and there are things going on in the trenches that most of us remain ignorant of. (S-56t/MG)

**FROM A WAREHOUSE OF NOCTURNES** #1 ($2 *CASH/MO* from

PO Box 5243, Kreole Sta., Moss Point, MI 39563): A collection of Roberts' art, writing and poetry. He gives us diary entries and letters along with jampacked surreal imagepoems here. But the best part is still his artwork, "folk" in its overall impression but filtered through something approaching divine madness. (S-20/MG)

**THE FROSTBITE FALLS FAR-FLUNG FLIER!** Vol. 5 #1 ($5/4 issues from Charles Ulrich, c/o Swick, 6002 Redondo Ct. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107): The fanzine for Rocky and Bullwinkle and the rest of the Jay Ward cartoon creations. Charles tracks all manner of media mentions of the the 'toons, going so far as to quote a line from the last FF. This issue has a complete list of fractured fairy tales and a Bullwinkle art quiz that I failed miserably. (S-12/MG)

**FUGITIVE POPE** Vol.1 #3 ($1 plus Age Statement from Raleigh Clayton Muns, 3338 Sawtelle Blvd. #20. Los Angeles, CA 90066): Tales of librarian bizarrities and adventures from Muns, a Library Science grad student. Herein we find "The Mad Shitter" whose delight in defecation shocked a UCLA library, sublime answers to real questions posed at a reference desk ("Where do you keep the lists of dead babies' names?") and slang terms for narcotics. Fun in academia. (D-13/CG)

**FULL DISCLOSURE** #20-21 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 903, Libertyville, IL 60048): A magazine concerned with Constitutional rights, fighting the government and IRS, and other unpopular topics. This issue reprints the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, reports on new and exciting bugging devices, and looks at the inside of a crack house. Lots of ideas on fighting back, though they won't all necessarily work. #21 has the specifications for the FBI's secret tape recorder and a sobering look at the Bill of Rights and its downfall. Also available (free with subscription) is a special report on the Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts. (T-12t/MG)

☐**FUNMARE INK** #1 ($1 *CASH/Stamps* or "any subversive artifact" from Donna Han, 627 Taylor St. #21, San Francisco, CA 94102): On the cover it says "Pornography: What is It?", but inside you will not find the answer. Instead, there are collages that are sort of psychic maps, railroads, lines, eyes, circuit boards, all muddled together. Quite possibly the editor's mind works this way, in which case I fear we are very different people. Intriguing. (D-32/MG)

**THE FUNNY PAGES** #13-14 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 217025, Dayton, OH 45431): Endless collections of jokes, good and bad, designed "To Delight and Offend". #14 explains why beer is better than women, while #13 has tips for recognizing a bad day. Both are packed with slurs aimed at every race, sex, nationality, and sexual preference imaginable. No one is safe from the politically incorrect! (S-10/MG)

☐**THE FUTURE GENERATION** #1 ($2 (?) from China, PO Box 465, Fairfield, PA 17320): A zine for alternative parents which editor China hopes will attract many more writers. This issue is a mix of her own thoughts on raising children in a new manner, and reprints from various books on childbirth, what kids need, and so on. Anti-sexist, pro-freedom, and generally supportive of trying to put together new lives without routine violence. (S-76/MG)

**THE GAINESVILLE IGUANA** Vol. 5 #1-2 ($5-10/yr from PO Box 14712, Gainesville, FL 32604): Peace & activist news from Florida, together with a calendar of local events. The war in the Mideast, anti-racist organizing, and censorship are among the stories they're following. (S-16t/MG)

**GARY MONSTER MAGAZINE** #6-7 ($3 from 311 Palmerston Blvd. Basement, Toronto, ONT, M6G 2N5, CANADA): A continuing cultural collage. A lot of the contents skate around the line between sex and marketing, with Rocky Horror, advertising, chorus girls and starlets in leopard skin bikinis all showing up. There are bits of social action, anonymous interviews, mutant babies and who knows what else between these covers. (D-60r/MG)

**GAWK** #6 ($4 or more per year from Tom Shearer, PO Box 31431, San Francisco, CA 94131): The title stands for "Gay Artists and Writers Kollective", but mostly it's Tom writing and roommate Beowulf turning it into neat typeset text. This issue features lots of comics from gay and lesbian artists, and a centerfold in which the AIDS virus speaks for itself. Plenty of zine reviews, primarily of gay zines, in the back. (HL-20t/MG)

**GAY COMMUNITY NEWS** Vol. 18 #11-18 ($39/49 issues from 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116): The weekly national news tabloid for the lesbian and gay community. #13 includes a twin article about Holly Near and k.d. lang, provoked by the former's autobiography. #16 includes a progress report on planning for the upcoming national lesbian conference, and inaugurates a new column on the way the straight media treats gays. (T-20t/MG)

**GAY COMMUNITY NEWS** Vol. 18 #10 ($39/49 issues from 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116): The Lesbian & Gay newspaper of record, this had stories on the Cincinnati Arts center/Mapplethorpe obscenity trial, the Navy's love/hate relationship with Lesbians, & the first Gay & Lesbian Theatre Festival. It really is very fine journalism, but, their unyeilding commitment to political rectitude makes their cultural reportage self-righteous, ham-handed and dull. The entire collective is humor-impaired, which news will no doubt delight them—handicapped status is for them a kind of secular sainthood. (T-20t/JR)

**GEGENSCHEIN** #58 (The Usual (?) from Eric Lindsay, 6 Hillcrest Ave., Faulconbridge, NSW 2776, AUSTRALIA): A SF zine that I had thought was extinct, but Eric is back with us once again. This issue reviews a batch of current books (with an eye towards techie-oriented SF), and talks of the problems of networking a bunch of university PCs together. Fun reading. (A4-14t/MG)

**THE GEIS LETTER** #4-5 ($2 from POB 11408, Portland OR 97211): This SF, Fantasy & Horror review and commentary is decidedly a cut above. The reviews are crisp and informative, the commentary newsy and thoughtful, the letters generally addressing points of general as well as genre interest. For the SF reader who reads other things as well. (S-8r/JR)

**GENII** Vol.53 #11-12 ($30/yr from PO Box 36068, Los Angeles, CA 90036): This is the international conjurer's magazine, tracking events, news and tips for the professional (or amateur) magician. #11 is also the special Bruce Cervon issue with lots of articles by and about the famous card trickster. Other articles include a peek into the death of Houdini and Magic Cons around the world. #12 focuses on the history of the Magic Castle's Junior program. (S-100t/CG/MG)

**GHOST TRACKER'S NEWSLETTER** Vol.9 #3 ($10/yr from Dale D. Kaczmarek, PO Box 205, Oaklawn, IL 60454-0205): This is the official paranormal publication of the Ghost Research Society. In it, you'll find members' contributions in the form of historical origins of hobgoblins, personal ghost tracking experiences, and the anatomy of apparitions (ever wonder about "screaming skulls"?). There are also lists of upcoming events and book reviews for the literary tracker. (S-20/CG)

**GNOSIS** #17 ($5 from PO Box 14217, San Francisco, CA 94114-0217): This time the "Journal of the Western Inner Traditions" (once called the **TIME** magazine of the spiritual) is devoted to "Sex & Spirituality", certainly a hot topic. Inside you'll find everyone from Aphrodite to Wilhelm Reich, the Sufis, coitus reservatus, the Islamic view on sex and love, and so on. Nina Silver's article on Reich and modern angst is quite good. (S-80t/MG)

**GOD/GODDESS O' COOL PHUN NEWSLETTER** ($1 or *stuff* from Graham Trievel, Rt. 113, Box 481, Lionville, PA 19353 *or* Colleen Fenderson, POB 24, Bristol, WI 53104): About the only *really* interesting thing about this humor newsletter is that it's transcontinentally edited: Graham is in PA while Colleen operates out of Wisconsin. The rest is mainly fluff with a fun attitude. There are pages and pages of Colleen's reasons for "marrying" Graham, phony TV history and some Otisian references. Lots of desperate pleas for mail. (S-20/CG)

**GOING DOWN SWINGING** #10/11 ($12 from PO Box 64, Coburg, Victoria, AUSTRALIA 3058): A fat perfect-bound double issue to celebrate a decade of publishing, this is an amazing litmag. It's got stories and poems and interviews and reviews and even a complete novella. Perhaps the closest American equivalent is the now-vanished GARGOYLE. Plenty of impressive work here, with many of the writers reflecting on the 80s in the literary and larger worlds. A great way to browse through some fine new writing from Australia. (D-260t/MG)

□**GOLF LINKS** Vol. 1 #1 ($4 from 5486 Georgetown Rd., Franklin, KY 40601): One of the joys of this job is finding new fanzines on new subjects—and this, the first golf zine we've seen, is a delight. It's not a "how-to" newsletter but a literary endeavor, with the major article here looking at the oldest golf course in the US. There's an amusing antiquarian account of the game, a bit of golf theory, and even a review of a miniature golf course. (S-8t/MG)

**G'RAFFITI** Vol. III #9-10 ($5/yr from PO Box 16898, San Diego, CA 92176): The newsletter of the Camelopards, a social group for folks scoring in the top 2% on IQ tests. We get a mix of puzzles, book reviews, and gossip here. Local events are announced, and there seem to be a lot of them going on. #10 of this non-Mensa smartie-sheet had rather a convivial feel to it. The reader-written quips and pieces tended to be humorous—in intent, and much space was devoted to outings-listings and calendar. Only drawback was the amount of kvetching about the unhappy childhoods of the top-heavy. (S-24t/MG/JR)

**GRAVE MATTERS** Vol. VI #2 ($5/4 issues from 1163 Warrenhall Lane, Atlanta, GA 30319): A zine for those interested in locating the burial places of Civil War dead—or, as they style themselves, "necrolithologists". This is a special issue, dedicated to Richard Brooke Garnett, a Confederate general who the society is trying to raise funds to build a memorial for. (S-9/MG)

**THE GREAT AMERICAN GAZETTE** Oct. 1990 ($1 from Wendie Brown, 3017 Winifred Dr., Burt, MD 20866): This is a penpal club with a plus. Yes, Wendie will help you find other people to write to—see the zine for details—but it goes beyond that. This zine is a medley of reprinted letters, photos of club members, short opinion pieces, reviews, ideas for redecorating, and more. A bubbly fun place to visit. (S-14r/MG)

**GREAT EXPEDITIONS** #63 ($4 from PO Box 8000-411, Sumas, WA 98295-8000): A travel magazine for people who want to get a bit off the beaten path—or a *lot* off the beaten path. This time, learn where to catch the next solar eclipse, visit the driest desert on Earth, and learn how to pack your bicycle. There's also humor (great article on black-market money in this one) and book reviews. (S-50t/MG)

**THE GREAT SWAMP GAZETTE** Vol. 14 #2 ($1 (?) from University of Rhode Island, Memorial Union Rm. 149, Kingston, RI 02881): A collection of political and other essays, artwork, stories and more. Lots of Mideast coverage in this issue, from thoughts on how we could lose a war to the proper steps for becoming a Conscientious Objector. There's a long satirical interview with *Family Circus* artist Bill Keane, some poetry crit, altered political posters, and more. (S-56t/MG)

**GREEN MULTILOGUE** Vol. 5 #3 ($3 from 390 Jones Ave., Toronto, ONT, M4J 3G3, CANADA): A many-to-many which centers on the activities of the Greens in Canada. It's a mix of politics, notes on the future, proposals for the Greens networks to undertake, thoughtful essays, and publicity pieces. It gives the sense of a vibrant movement, though how far this extends beyond the pages I am not sure. (S-58/MG)

**GREEN PRINTS** #3 ($2.50 from PO Box 1355, Fairview, NC 28730): A litmag for the gardening crowd, or perhaps a gardening zine for the literary-minded. Whichever, this is full of classic reprints (the picture of Miss Tobacco 1946 speaks volumes) and new stories, almost all of which encourage a feeling of being close to the earth. Understated and loads of fun. (D-40t/MG)

**GRIND** Vol. 2 #11 ($8/12 issues from Richard Green, PO Box 32, Old Bridge, NJ 08857): A zine of nothing but movie reviews. #11 is the April issue, back after a longish summer vacation. It spends some ink chopping down the various lambada movies to size. (S-4/MG)

**GRITS** Christmas/Religion Issue ($3 from Scott Harbaugh, PO Box 779-153, Barefoot Bay, FL 32976): Short stories and fake ads and such, almost all by Scott himself. This time he takes on some of America's idols and makes mockeries of them, with a disgusting story of a poor kid's Christmas, deranged prophets, and other offensiveness. Seems a bit mean-spirited at times, but the best pages are pretty funny. Includes a comic from his wife portraying him in a pretty bad light. (S-34/MG)

□**GROUNDSWELL** Aug. 1990 ($25/yr from GSM Subscriptions, PO Box 1030, Haleiwa, HI 96712): With this issue this Hawaii-based surfing tabloid goes national. They feature lots of photos or people going up and down waves, results from the various professional surfers' competitions, and equipment and locale reports. There's also a strong environmental consciousness, mostly directed at beach and surf protection. Reminds me of a skateboard mag, but with water. (T-32t/MG)

**GROWING WITHOUT SCHOOLING** #77 ($25/6 issues from 2269 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140): The major resource zine for people interested in home schooling. One of the major messages here is that kids are qualified to decide what they want to learn when; even "late reading" is no big deal. They print letters from children and parents, ideas on how to get involved, and keep an eye on the applicable laws as well. (S-24t/MG)

**THE GRUMBLING YAK** #7 ($1 *Cash or stamps* from PO Box 127, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522): Musings about life, gay rights and othersuch by (mostly) Unicorn, an elusive young man who likens the state of homosexuality to that of the Jews during the Holocaust. He also treats us to some short unexplainable fiction and a profile of those little puffballs that grow on rotten wood—they happen to be unisexual. Methinks there's a metaphor at work here. Still shaky, but doing fine. (D-15r/CG)

**GUERILLA GRAPHICS** Sept.-Nov. 1990 ($2.50 from Bob Lee, 1720 Burgundy Rd., Leucadia, CA 92024): A clever minizine of art and graphics and altered text (**MOBY DICK**, in wordplay form, is running serialized). The experiments with type and concrete poetry are amusing, and the editorial on the Mideast is at least very different. Bob also picks on stupid ads and stupid PR and stupid TV shows with a nasty sense of humor. (M-24t/MG)

□**GULAG DADA** #1-2 (SASE or trade from Gobi, PO Box 18754, Rochester, NY 14618): A fatuous SubGenius-influenced zine that doesn't have a center except for its abundance of "Bob" pictures. What He has to do with poems about cocks, nuns drinking beer, and fleshy babes with pasties, I'm sure I don't know. Maybe I'm not supposed to. The rest is filled with collage and multitudinous variations of the editor's name, which I gather she is very impressed with. (D-12/CG)

**HAMMER OF TRUTH** #12 (SASE from National Cynicratic Party, General Delivery, Gainesville, TX 76240): Very tongue-in-cheek newsletter pitching barbs at the likes of NEA recipients whose art form requires one to drink lots of water and pee gracefully. The editor has applied for his own grant and promises to uphold his art form to the best of his urinary ability. Also included is a day in the golf game of our nation's leader, during a Mideast crisis moment. (S-3/CG)

**HAPA** #11 ($3 from Joe Lane, PO Box 4083, Terre Haute, IN 47804-4083): The OEship of this apa for small publishers has changed again, and I'm looking forward to see what Joe can do with it. There's only around a dozen of us participating, but plenty of ideas on design, layout, computer use, perfect binding, tricks and tips appear in every issue. For the serious fanzine publisher. (S-42/MG)

**THE HARDCORE** #4 ($3.50 from Scott Dorward, 1st Floor Flat, 212 Croydon Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4DE, ENGLAND): A zine of cyberpunk in all its various guises, edited (and largely written) by the enigmatic jael nuit, who doesn't mind going out on a few limbs. There's a nice article here on the battles that **CHEAP TRUTH** started, a look at Cyberpunk in the comics and the current antics of "Movement" writers, and even some fiction (ranging from interesting to dismally experimental). The look is a bit rough—in particular some pieces are over screens so murky that they're tough to read—but the content makes up for that. (A4-42/MG)

**HARVEST** Vol.10 #8-Vol. 11 #1 ($11/yr. from POB 378, Southborough, MA 01772): Although unquestionably the essential Pagan zine for the New England area, this is partly due to want of serious competition. Harvest remains resolutely uninteresting. The events listing is excellent, as are the cullings from major media, but the articles always present such foregone conclusions that they don't compel. #8 does have an interview with the Farrars, who are pagan scene-royalty, but the questions aren't difficult ones. #1 is their 10th anniversary issue, in which many present and former staff members reminisce and look toward the future. Networks, classifieds and personals are combined with articles for techno-pagans, about "The Art of Burial" in the UK and part two of an interview with Janet

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☐**THE HAUNTED SUN** #1 ($2.50 from 22000 Mauer, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080): A new zine of horror which opts for a tabloid presentation so as to get a lot in. The stories here tend a bit towards the experimental, not just another collection of monsters and dark nights—though both, of course, appear. Gregory Fitz Gerald's "October Blood" is an eerie psychological exploration of Halloween, and only one of about a dozen stories here. (T-16/MG)

☐**HAWAII ECO REPORT** July 1990 ($20/12 issues from PO Box 1153, Pumene, Maui, HI 96784): An environmental journal focusing on the Hawaiian Islands, where the government is one of the major polluters—as for example by dumping radioactive waste into Pearl harbor from subs. There's an article on buying smart which goes beyond the usual "get less packaging" by suggesting wildflowers instead of lawns (low maintenance, better for the birds). They also get into pointers to other groups in the islands. (T-12t/MG)

**HEADCHECK** #4 ($1 (?) from 19 Cleveland St., Wakefield, RI 02879): An anti-war zine from the "People's Movement for Revolutionary Consciousness." It ties everything together, asking why we don't grow hemp for biomass instead of importing oil, looking at the pre-invasion chronology in the Mideast, and printing some post-Vietnam poetry. Comes with a batch of little stickers. (D-20t/MG)

☐**HEART DANCE** #1-3 (Free from PO Box 5539, Berkeley, CA 94705): A local monthly from the Bay area detailing a New Age calendar of events and directory of spiritual, wholistic health and related services. Listings include practitioners, lectures, readings and spiritual organizations. (S-20t/CG)

**HEAVEN STAY A WHILE** #22 (The Usual from Vijay Bowen, Murray Hill Station, PO Box 175, New York, NY 10156-0175): Coupled with **FOOTSTEPS ON THE RIVER** #18, these are two separate but joinable apa contributions from Vijay which she sends out on her own. Warm and personal, sometimes feisty, sometimes righteous—these are combined thoughts and reactions to her own (and sometimes someone else's) life. A sf fan, she relates her con treks as well as notes from Lunarian meetings. (S-9/CG)

☐**HELL BENT** ($40/4 issues air mail from Wicked Women, PO Box 305, Redfern, Sydney 2016, AUSTRALIA): A new zine for gay and lesbian writing, and as hot as you might expect another Wicked Women pub to be. It opens with a strong series of articles on sex between gay men and lesbians arguing that such exploration need not destroy their gay identity, nor should it be treated with intolerance in the community. There are blunt photos, outrageous stories, local political activism, and more. Forthright and outspoken. (S-36t/MG)

☐**HERETICAL INQUISITOR** #1 (*Long* SASE from PO Box 2042, Fairview Heights, IL 62208): A Satan-influenced personal tract which purports to possess a fine sense of humor but it's invisible so far. Although the editor doesn't wish to be pigeon-holed into a Satanic niche, that is where most of the editorial falls. Denouncements of various political agendas, censorship and a recommended reading list are included. Lots of effort here, but ambivalence in execution. (S-4/CG)

☐**HIGH SCHOOL FAG** #1 ($1/2 issues from Jeremy, PO Box 812, Reading, MA 01867): A zine of strange sexuality, from gay to simple "genderfucking"—blurring the boundaries between the genders. There are short stories and true stories here, all about being young and confused and in love or lust. (M-12/MG)

**HIMALAYAN INSTITUTE QUARTERLY** Fall 90 (Free from RR1, Box 400, Honesdale, PA 18431): Resource guide and calendar of events from the Himalayan Institute. Editorial contents are mainly plugs for Swami Rama, Traning Courses, Nutrition and other inner health-related courses. (S-48t/CG)

**HOLY TITCLAMPS** #6 ($1 FROM Boxholder, PO Box 3054, MPLS, MN 55403): Yet another punkoid gay zine, suffering from earnestness and AIDS-era Welschmerz. This issue interview the Gay band GO, features demurely political male figure drawings, poetry the **James White Review** might consider hard edged, letter and the unavoidable WhiteBoy pomes. A bit tired. (D-44/JR)

☐**HOME EXCHANGE & HOSPITALITY** ($18/yr (US) from Kimco Communications, 4242 West Dayton, Fresno, CA 93722): A new bimonthly newsletter for people who want to travel cheaply, experience others' lives or swap homes for a change. An alternative to hotels and B&B's, home exchange is becoming more popular due to its inherent affordability and intimacy. There's a classified section, tips on traveling for less, list of organizations, and notes on worldwide home exchange (it's becoming easier to do in many European countries). (S-7t/CG)

☐**HOMELESS VOICE** Vol. 2 #1 (Donation from Berkeley Ecumenical Chaplaincy to the Homeless, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94704): A newsletter of and for homeless people in the Berkeley area. There's interviews with people in people's Park, notes on recent activism and trials, and some sense that a safety net still exists even if not endorsed by the government. (S-12t/MG)

**HOME POWER** #19 ($2 from PO Box 130, Hornbrook, CA 96044-0130): One for the people who are into renewable sources of energy, from wind to solar to who knows what. Lots of reportage in this issue on a couple of renewable energy fairs over the summer. They also review products, describe complete systems, give out technical advice, show a model for a solar house, and generally put an amazing range of ideas before the reader in every issue. Always dream-provoking. (S-66t/MG)

☐**HORIZON** #68 (80bfr. (?) from Johnny Haelterman, Stationsstraat 232A, 1770 Liedekerke, Belgium): A Belgian magazine of culture and worldliness written entirely in Dutch, so I can only make out the subjects of the articles—that being the Alan Parsons Project, some Siamese cuisine, ecology, some concert and classical music info. (S-26/CG)

**HOTEL DIRE** ($1 From GOBI, POB 18754, Rochester, NY 14618): Another psychotic tidbit from the Holy City of Rochester. This one's remarkable for Rev. Samuel's twisted wit: he hears in Popeye the voice of God, shoots designer drugs cooked up in the labs of Asia, and presents the reader with a most distressing valentine—not to mention a superb *detournement* of Rocky & Bullwinkle. Futher, this issue features a cheesecake shot of Gobi, infamous Marginals sex-kitten (she's been the ruin of many a poor boy, and Lord I wish I was one,) & a Gobi poem that begins "I ride the ranks/ with heaving flanks..." Amen & selah! (D-30t/JR)

**HUDSON VALLEY GREEN TIMES** Vol. 10 #5 ($15/yr from PO Box 208, Red Hook, NY 12571): Our local environmental networking paper. #5 is mainly about environmental education, on the theory that teaching kids well will avoid a lot of troubles in the future. There's also intriguing news of a couple of cohousing projects afoot in this area and a guide to the candidates' positions on environmental issues. (T-16t)

**HUMANIST NEWS & VIEWS** Vol. 5 #1 ($10/yr from Bernie Schatz, 4418 Josephine La., Robbinsdale, MN 55422-1328): News and opinion from folks who think religion is a bit off, to say the least. They poke fun at the "inerrant" bible, report on religious political pressure and what to do about it, and try to look rationally at everything from medical care to abortion. (S-6t/MG)

**HYPE** #3 ($1 from 137 E. Houston #4, New York, NY 10002): Wild glimpses of New York culture and other unsavory things. There's an excerpt from Karen Finley's latest, a chat with the Revolting Cocks, and a weird postapocalyptic comic from L.V. Abbema. They've got an article on tattooing and its suppression, and a report on Shawn Eichman's latest protest. Strange and fun. (T-40t/MG)

**HYPE** #1-2 ($1 (?) from DOVentertainment, 2 Bloor St. W #100, Box 159, Toronto, ONT, M4W 3E2, CANADA): No connection with the above, this is an unfocused tabloid of wide cultural interests. They run musically from rap to Devo, socially from gay pages to notes on the small press. Go-go dancers, the band Vasilisk, and a chunk o' reviews and poetry, all in #2. Looking for more contributors too. (T-28t/MG)

☐**THE HYPERBOREAN** Vol. 1 #1 ($2 *CASH* from Richard Gaska, 2024 N. Manor Dr., Erie, PA 16505): A new journal of reprints and aphorisms from a generally freethought point of view. There are bits of news from the international anarchist community (reprinted from **ANARCHY**), plus a long section of a book which aims to whittle the Bible down to size. (S-30t/MG)

**IDEAS & ACTION** #14 ($2 from PO Box 40400, San Francisco, CA 94140): Internationalist anarchist syndicalism from the Workers Solidarity Alliance—a small and somewhat theoretically-oriented group of independent labor activists. Much of this is devoted to labor news, though they also manage a report on their annual meeting and some stuff on Redwood Summer. Tom Wetzel writes nasty things about cars here too. (T-20t/MG)

**IDEOLOGY OF MADNESS** #7-9 ($1 (?) from Yggdrasil Press, PO Box 1742, Arlington, TX 76004): Another uncontrollable religious tract from Texas, somewhere in the SubGenial orbit but with their own ideas as well. They sermonize about slack, tell you where to get things to fill your mailbox, print letters from confused youth, and generally seem to be having fun. A more-frequent adjunct to Muthah Church publications. (HL-20/MG)

☐**IDIOSYNCHRONICITY** #1 ($1 from Max Belvedere, Greenwood Sta., PO Box 30917, Seattle, WA 98103-0917): Max invited some friends to write things for his zine, and here they are. It's a mix of poetry (well, poetry and doggerel), cynicism, comments on movies, justifications for being an observer, and more. Looking for more material, though they don't guarantee to print everything. (S-12/MG)

**I'D RATHER BE LAUGHING** #3 (2 stamps from PO Box 3369, Iowa City, IA 52244-3369): This issue of this little humor zine is all about death. There's a death row interview, some cartoons of innovative hangings, and so on. Best bet is probably the story "The Day Nobody Died". (D-16t/MG)

☐**IF I WAS PRESIDENT** #1-2 (25¢ from Tony Mentzer, 101 Sharon Rd., West Middlesex, PA 16159): Tony is apparently putting his hat in the ring for '92 with this premiere issue, a topical broadside. In it he offers a novel solution to the problem of too much garbage—I won't spoil the fun, other than by telling you it seems pretty tongue-in-cheek. #2 has his stand on the ozone layer, sure to be unpopular with the environmental crowd. (S-1/MG)

**THE IMMORTALIST** Vol. 21 #9-10 ($18/yr from Immortalist Society, 24443 Roanoke, Oak Park, MI 48237): The magazine of one of the least-expensive cryonics organizations—they will freeze you after death for a mere $28,000. Though most of the articles here are on cryonics, they don't stick too closely to topic, looking at a lot of semi-random medical advances as well. #9 has several notes and lectures from a recent conference at Asilomar that pulled together representatives of the major organizations in the field. #10 discusses funding levels and ways to market cryonics, and takes a trip through recent mainstream research results. (S-52t/MG)

**I'M NOT BORING YOU AM I?** #8 (The Usual from Robert Runté, PO Box 4655, PSSE, Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 5G5, CANADA): A zine from SF fandom that discusses lots of things, none of them science fiction. Mostly this is about Robert's experiences in the world of academic sociology and graduate study, and is fun and funny. His advisor sounds like the sort that most people would kill for, and his discussion of the absurdity of journal copying fees is spot on. (S-10t/MG)

**IMPOSSIBLE HUMAN CENTER NEWSLETTER** Vol.4 # 1-2 $2 from Pyramid Research Center, Box 478, Odenton, MD 21113): Concerned with accelerated learning & unconventional agriculture & energy technology. The idea here is that ordinary science is blind to unlimited potentials for self and world development. These issues touch on wind power, weather control, the use of moonlight in agriculture, and neuron regeneration. Nice to see optimism. (S-8t/JR)

**THE IMPOSSIBLE UTTERANCE** #5-6 ($1/4 issues from Plaster Cramp Press, PO Box 5975, Chicago, IL 60680-5975): A small zine of random marginal literary outpourings. #5 is a strange essay by John Eberly on the significance of two homemade erotic photos. #6 features poetry from Crag Hill, jwcurry, Guy Beining, John Bennett and other bizarre writers. (HS-8t/MG)

**INDEPENDENT WRESTLING NEWSLETTER** Aug. 1990 ($2 from Michael Rush, 19 Norton Dr. #1, Norwood, MA 02062): A wrestling zine that focuses in on the smaller, independent, regional promotions rather than the big national outfits. They feature news from dozens of these smaller promotions, as well as some photos and in this issue a roundtable discussion of the state of wrestling. (S-10r/MG)

**INDUSTRIAL WORKER** Oct. 1990 ($10/yr from IWW, 3435 N. Sheffield #202, Chicago, IL 60657): It's difficult to reconcile the headline "The IWW: The Future Has Never Been Brighter" with the Keystone Kops stories of political squabbles within the Wobblies these days, as several factions are gleefully trying to eject and overrule one another. Meanwhile there are Wobs doing good work, as in the recent Redwood Summer actions, but the unions is still a far cry less active than it was decades back. (T-8t/MG)

**INFOCULT** Vol. 1 #2 ($2 from Johnny Walsh, PO Box 23124, East Hampton, NY 11937): Well, it's the nineties, the end of the millenium is coming and of course a lot of people are gearing up for the Apocalypse. Johnny wants to provide you with a scorecard for the coming fun, looking into the weird nooks and crannies of the modern world. This issue has Lee Harvey Oswald's last words, a rundown on wild books from Phil Dick, and a reprint of the alleged Majestic-12 UFO briefing document. Religious nuts also creep in here and there, together with lurid paperbacks worth keeping an eye out for. (T-12t/MG)

**INFO JOURNAL** #61 ($3 from International Fortean Organization, PO Box 367, Arlington, VA 22210-0367): This Fortean number delights in finding how our world is susceptible to the marvellous. In this issue we have fairy crosses in Virginia, a "Big-Foot hunter", a sympathetic look at Alaskan mythology, and more of thel like. The most bracing thing about this is the way "scientific method" is held up to ridicule. (S-40t/JR)

**INSIDE ENVIRONMENT** Vol.2 #9-10 ($2.50 from PO Box 13061, Lexington, KY 40583-3061): "On the cutting edge of Eco/Environmental issues for the mid-south region." #9 focuses on industrial waste disposal, and they must have some clout to judge by the number of ads from disposal companies. Good coverage, professionally presented, without Left hysteria. #10 ranges from synthetic fuels to incineration of toxic wastes, still presenting the business technofix view of things. (T-28t/JR/MG)

**INSIDE JOKE** #78-79 ($1.50 from Elayne Wechsler-Chaput, PO Box 1609, Madison Sq. Sta., New York, NY 10159-1609): A fairly tame humor zine, mostly free-floating whimsey unweighted by satiric content and hence impactless, but also without that anti-logic that can give this genre a gleeful weightless effervescence. The exception in #78 was the Anni Ackner piece on dating (I swear this isn't team spirit talking) which had the crude drollery of a punk Jean Kerr. (S-28r/JR) #79 was the tenth annish, which I found to be pretty amusing, though a bit poignant coming up on the final issue #80. (S-34r/MG)

**THE INSIDER GUN NEWS** Vol. 4 #9/10 ($50/12 issues from The Gunpress Publishing Co., PO Box 2441, Merrifield, VA 22116): Independent coverage of the firearms industry and its opponents. This issue has some bad things to say about "militant carrot-killer vegetarians", but as usual reserves most of its ire for an incompetent NRA leadership. There's a great lead story about private gun collectors providing vital training for military folks now in Saudi Arabia. (S-4/MG)

**INSTAURATION** Vol.15 # 10-11 ($30 year from Howard Allen Enterprises, Inc., Box 76, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920): The lead article here contrasts White soul, equated with ideals & culture, with Black soul, equated with crime and ignorance. Other pieces in #10 censure Holocaust monuments as Unamerican, and blame the Jews for Rock & Roll. Particularly Rock videos which "endlessly repeat Love is the answer" and show "visuals of blacks and whites dancing together" are responsible for infecting the young with "kosher attitudes." (S-35t/JR)

**INSTEAD OF A MAGAZINE** #49 ($6.50/4 issues from Michael Ziesing, Lysander Spooner Society, PO Box 433, Willimantic, CT 06226): I think this is an especially fine issue of this anarchist zine—but then, I have two articles in it. There is discussion of

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problems in anarchist theory, of strategies for opposing the state, of art and of suicide—to name a few topics. Wide-ranging and growing to be an essential part of anarchist culture. (D-52t/MG)

**INSTITUTE OF ABSURDITY NEWSLETTER** Vol. 6 #3 (SASE from 236 W. Portal #170, San Francisco, CA 94127): Notes on the doings of the Institute of Absurdity, a sort of traveling psychiatric theatre group. They're doing a show right now that explores the rifts between men and women, through such topics as "Handling the Feminist Wife". (S-3/MG)

**INTERCEPTED** Vol. 9 #7-8 (65¢ plus postage [45¢ domestic, 52¢ Canadian, $1.35 elsewhere] from Kay Shapero, 12536 Short Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066): A weird multiversal party zine. It's written by the readers, who contribute short ads moving the plot along, from the Great Multispecies Orgy to some intelligent computers to Mira the Space Pirate to Wooly the Magic Sheep. Like waking up in the middle of all your favorite novels and TV shows combined together, and getting the chance to determine part of the plot. (S-6/MG)

**INTERFLO** Vol. 9 #7 ($20 from PO Box 42, Maplewood, NJ 07040): Abstracts of articles regarding Soviet joint economic and trading ventures worldwide. The source is given for each, to aid in followup. Topics range from Finnish participation in the Mars shot to Pan Am's problems with using Aeroflot to ship freight. (S-34t/MG)

**INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISER** #30 ($4 from J. Poms, PO Box 182, A-1011 Vienna, AUSTRIA): A collection of ads which resembles various "big mail" zines in the US, but with a much higher proportion of import and export deals. You can sell Malaysian solar car ventilators or buy land in the Caribbean, as well as deal with the usual run of folks promising to reprint your ad. (A4-14r/MG)

**INTERRACE** July-Nov. 1990 ($4.00 from PO Box 1001, Schenectady, NY 12301-1001): As the title indicates, this one is dedicated to supporting interracial couples in their lives. The cover story in the July issue covers Rae Dawn Chong and C. Thomas Howell, one of the more famous interracial couples, and profiles others such as the publishing duo Ronalda and William Frazier. Highlighted in November is a profile of Johhny Clegg and the *Miss Saigon* debate. Back issues are available, covering topics such as Amer-Asians and interracial films. (S-19t/CG)

**INTERRACIAL CLUB OF BUFFALO NEWSLETTER** Sept. 1990 ($2.50 from PO Box 400, Amherst Branch, Buffalo, NY 14226): Mostly reprints and reviews, this one tracks interracial families and their problems in our society. They keep track of appearances in movies and on TV, and can put people in touch with various support groups. The September issue also reprints an article on the legal process of changing one's race in South Africa. (S-12/MG)

**INTUITIVE EXPLORATIONS** Vol. IV #4-5 ($1.50 from Gloria Reiser, PO Box 561, Quincy, IL 62306-0561): A New Age sort of newsletter with articles from all over. #4 features a look at Out Of Body Experiences and thoughts on how to discover your past lives. #5 has clairvoyance and a basic intro to yoga. Book reviews and a collection of environmental news clips from readers are regular features, as is considerable networking. (S-24/MG)

**INVERTED BLAKE** #2 ($10 (?) from Inverted-A, Inc., 401 Forrest Hill, Grand Prairie, TX 75051): A fat spiral-bound package of Blake's 7 fan fiction and poetry. The material runs from straight extrapolations in the show's universe to odder things, such as the "prequels" where B7 characters show up in historical settings without any special explanation. Lots here for the fan. (S-100t/MG)

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**IPPL NEWSLETTER** Vol. 17 #2 ($20/yr from PO Box 766, Sumterville, SC 29484): The newsletter of the International Primate Protection League. Their main activity recently has been to try to stop illegal trade in live primates, made more difficult by a network of smugglers and corrupt officials. Nevertheless, they report important victories in this issue—along with a few bits of sad news about improper treatment and even death of primates in captivity. Full of notes on what you can do to help. (S-20t/MG)

□**ITN** July 1990 ($15/12 issues from 201 Lathrop Way #D, Sacramento, CA 95815): That stands for International Travel News, and this periodical reminds me a bit of the old Lonely Planet Newsletter, full of updates from readers about their experiences around the world, sort of a grassroots tip line. Pakistan, French country inns, and the ethics of reporting on troubled countries are among the subjects in this issue. (S-74t/MG)

**IT'S A MAD MAD MAD MAD MAD WORLD** #5 ($1 *CASH/Stamps* from Flybreeder Studios, 8830 Nesbit Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98103): A literary and rantzine from the corners of the underground. There's a medical nightmare from Jef Deth, more outrage from Paul Weinman, cab driver tales, and a first person account of going to prison. All of this is lashed together with a pile of letters and artwork and presented hot and fresh to a waiting world. (S-32/MG)

**IT'S ONLY A MOVIE** #3 ($3.50 from Michael Flores, PO Box 14683, Chicago. IL 60614-0683): The zine for people who like their culture with a twist. Expanding from classic movies to the entire psychotronic world, each issue is full of features on all the hippest things you can imagine. Try this lineup: Betty Page, EC Comics, Joe Bob Briggs, Confidential Magazine, Darkman, 2 Live Crew, Hong Kong action flicks —it's all here. Recommended. (S-56t/MG)

**JAG** Vol. 28 #9 (On Request from R.S. Jaggard, MD, 10 E. Charles, Oelwein, IA 50662): A zine of individualist libertarian ideas, from someone who is still bucking the system after many years. He's especially interested in the medical system, and continues to point out ways in which patients and doctors can function better as a team when the government does not get involved. (L-1/MG)

□**JASON UNDERGROUND'S NOTES FROM THE TRASH COMPACTOR** #1 (FREE/Donation accepted from Jesus Freaks Ink., 2795 Via Vela, Camarillo, CA 93010): A zine of Jason's life and thoughts. In this issue he lists some of his favorite things, talks a bit about new music, and indicts fashion political correctness as a sham. (S-4/MG)

□**JAUNDICED EYE** #1 ($3 from PO Box 454, Rockville, MD 20848): Lots of stuff here, most of it good. Dave Crowley prints some of the weird manifestoes and essays floating around zinedom, but then he goes after the writers with his own comments. There are reviews of unusual mainstream magazines as well as zines, pages of poetry, and a photocopy of the warrant for Mayor Barry's arrest. Dave also does a fine job of discussing suppressed books, starting with Ida Tarbell and Upton Sinclair. Well done. (S-44t/MG)

**JED YARICK NEWSLETTER** 7/8-10/9/90 ($2.50/3 issues from Jed Yarick, 9319 Craig, Overland Park, KS 66212): The continuing saga of Jed's search for truth, justice and a decent meal at Denny's. Journal entries detailing Jed's nightly romps through the night jungle of Overland Park and daytime queries over whether to stay a grill man or pursue a career in front deskmanship. He also send out a rather irked missive in the direction of Tad Kepley in the 7/8 issue. In the 10/9 issue he reports being back in love again. (S-5/CG/MG)

**THE JOE NEWS** #6 (SASE from PO Box 153, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA 02117): A personalzine with a twist, that being that it's not issued by the mysterious Joe but by some of his admirers. It contains pontifications on potatoes, a Worst Song contest, and other bizarre stuff. They;re looking for offbeat photos and clippings too. (S-1/MG)

□**THE JOURNAL OF MINIATURE ASTRONAUTICS** Fall 1990 ($16/yr from 4269 Torino Crescent, Mississauga, ONT, L4W 2T4, CANADA): A magazine for the serious aficionado of model rockets, a field which appears to have international ruling bodies and structured competitions and everything. There are drawings here of gliders and rockets you can build (maybe—if you're a technical whiz), an article on parachute construction, and some competition results. Pretty serious looking. (S-16t/MG)

**JOURNAL OF THE MEGAHEALTH SOCIETY** Vol. 6 #2 ($3 from PO Box 60637, Palo Alto, CA 94306): Serious technical information for those pursuing extended life through unusual and alternative treatments, with an emphasis on dietary supplements. This issue reports troubling news on the business front, with a prominent company caught selling inferior vitamins. (S-8t/MG)

**JOURNAL WIRED** #3 ($15 from PO Box 76, Shingletown, CA 96088): It feels kind of silly to review this fat trade paperback here, but it's a periodical, so...this is full of SF and other neat things and you should own it. Interviews with Sun Ra and William Gibson, Paul Di Filippo writing about the meaning of Spandex and Michael Banks tackling the future of telecommunications, short stories by Jonathan Lethem and Wayne Allen Sallee, Lucius Shepard pretending he's Hunter Thompson...that's just a small slice of the contents here. Enough to keep any edge-oriented person busy for a week. (D-353t/MG)

**JU'I LOBYPLI** #13 ($20/yr from The Logical Language Group, 2904 Beau Ln., Fairfax, VA 22031): The technical journal of the folks working on developing lojban as a truly logical language, with the idea of testing the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis (among other things). This issue includes as a supplement the complete machine grammar for the language, and also gets into Esperanto vs. lojban and has some intriguing translations. An intro packet on the language is available for $4. (S-56/MG)

**THE KANSAS INTELLIGENCER** vol.4 #8-11 ($12/yr. from R.W. Clack, Rt 1-Box 7A, Morganville. KS 67468): Mr. Clack advocates more nuclear power to reduce oil dependence, tougher prisons (i.e., chains) to discourage crime, and blames affirmative action for America's dulled competitive edge, in this issue. For an encore he slams deconstructionism (got that one right.) #10 concentrates on our options vis-a-vis Iraq and Kuwait. A folksy polemic from the heartland. (L-2/JR/MG)

**KELTIC FRINGE** Autumn 1990 ($3 from Maureen Williams, Box 251 RD #1, Uniondale, PA 18470): A revival of the zine started a few years back by June Sawyers. It looks at the history, culture and politics of the Celts from Brittany to Scotland to Ireland and elsewhere. This issue has Laurel Speer writing about Robert Graves, notes on Excalibur, a chatty bit about St. Patrick, and plenty of short bits. A promising renewal. (S-12/MG)

**KEYCHIE KISHLINE** #4 ($1 (?) from Nicole, 2334 S. 8th St., Philadelphia, PA 19148): A collection of poems, story fragments, little bits of reporting on life, and more, all collaged together with a variety of borrowed graphics. It's a quiet, unassuming zine, which pins down parts of life on the page while maintaining a fresh open look. A few zine reviews and other contacts grace the closing pages. (S-36/MG)

**KEYSTONE SOCIALIST** Fall '90 (Contrib. from 2208 South St., Philadelphia PA, 19146): The newsletter of the Pennsylvania Socialist Party deplores the Gulf war preparation and the Bush anti-poor tax plan, and has a rather informative piece on the role of May Day and Labor Day in the history of the Labor movement. Sensible stuff, carefully put together. (S-4/JR)

☐**KHEPERA** Vol.2 #1 ($2.50 from The Church of the Eternal Source, PO Box 7091, Burbank CA 91510-7091): Well produced and written propaganda from the CES, which has revived the religion of Ancient Egypt in modern California. This issue contains general statements of the church's beliefs & values, and articles on how to make natron at home, comparison of embalming techniques old and new, and the significance of the Ankh. They adopt a rather serene tone, as they can afford to, considering the incredible richness of their tradition and their obvious pride in craftsmanship and learning. (D-16t/JR)

**KIDS LIB NEWS** #20 ($12/yr from Open Sky Home Education, PO Box 1064, Kurtistown, HI 96760): A familist magazine that is mostly comprised of clippings from the mainstream media concerning the welfare of children in today's society. The articles, although sometimes juxtaposed weirdly, cover an array of topics from child molestation, learning resources and family shared decision-making. (S-48/CG)

**KIDSCIENCE** Vol.4 #2 ($2 from Sample copy from 2215 Doswell Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108): A journal published for the benefit of teachers—a helpful guide to teaching and learning practices you wouldn't normally find in textbooks. This issue features astronomy and space travel with exercises in selenography, constellation maps and even a solar system fact sheet. Great for homeschoolers as well as public educators. (S-26/CG)

**KILLBABY** #5 ($3 from Steve Fentone, PO Box 742, Stn. Q, Toronto, ONT, M4T 2N5, CANADA): Soon to be renamed **TAME** (Steve just had a kid of his own, making a title change necessary), this one continues coverage of strange movies and related features. Main attraction this time around is a spread on Dyanne Thorne, including lots of promo posters and a filmography. There are lots of reviews of B monster movies, a serialized story, zine reviews, and more. (D-82r/MG)

☐**KOSMOSKYNA** 2/90 (45 *FIM* from Jyrki JJ Kasvi, Servin-Maijan tie 6F 94, SF-02150 Espoo, Finland): The Finnish SF Writers Association newsletter which is written in "Finglish," namely English with some very forgivable grammatical errors. A very open and friendly journal with news of fandom in Finland, con news, short sf stories, the history of the FSFWA and a fascinating article on the Kalevala (the Finnish "national epos") as a source of inspiration for writing or reflection. (S-32t/CG)

**KRYLON UNDERGROUND** Oct. 1990 ($1 from PO Box 5830, Bethesda, MD 20824): Madness and mayhem with lots of art swiped from all over. This issue has a warning about the improper use of rope, home addresses for the New Kids on the Block, the Golden Laws of Bureaucracy, the start of a serialized story of snake-boy, dweller on the edge, White Boy poetry, and more. An eerie trip to the margins. (D-20t/MG)

**KURLUK NEWSLETTER** Oct. ($ 2 & SASE fropm PO Box 6186, Baltimore, MD 21231): Misty mystical utterances from Dr. Kurluk, a heavy-duty tarot-slinger and master of a portentous style. Mostly ads and the great man pontificating. (S-20/JR)

**LAB NOTES** Nov. 1990 ($1 from What Hiss Music, PO Box 24155, Winston-Salem, NC 27114-4155): A collection of random stuff from the wilds of the creative subconscious. There's some poetry (including the fine though scary "But It Was" from Lida), some art, a story-thing or two...a bit scattered, but high class. (HL-8t/MG)

**LADIES' FETISH & TABOO SOCIETY COMPENDIUM OR URBAN ANTHROPOLOGY** Vol. III #2 ($1.50 from Biehl, PO Box 542327, Houston, TX 77254-2327): A collection of strange and wonderful accounts of highways that mutate numbers, shrines to Harmonicas in Italy, weird headings in the Library of Congress catalog, and more. Some people lead decidedly interesting lives and a few of them put out this newsletter. Always amusing, always confusing. (S-10r/MG)

**L.A. DRIVER** Vol. 2 #2 ($1 from 12226 Victory Blvd. #325, North Hollywood, CA 91606): A magazine which announces it has no purpose, but which is great fun to read. It mixes poetry, environmental concerns and full-page art with a light humorous touch, especially evident in the opening instructions on how to read the zine. The freeways of Los Angeles are a recurring theme, and I enjoyed the comparative review of the various routes from L.A. to the Northwest. (HL-24t/MG)

**THE L.A. GANG BANG** #23-25 ($1 from 1212A N. San Fernando #244, Burbank, CA 91504): A good example of that hard-to-penetrate

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genre, the personalzine. Gary, Less, Mary and Valorie write about their lives, families, movies watched, vacations and such like, and invite their readers to do the same. Youthful hijinx prevail. (S-6/MG)

**THE LAND NEWSLETTER** Autumn 1990 ($1 from Ridgehaven, PO Box 849, Glen Allen, CA 95442): The focus of this newsletter was on buying land cheaply, but now it's moving towards intentional community. In particular, the editor is pushing for "Kaniksu", a community to be bought in ten-acre lots at $30,000 each, coordinated between various alternative folks. More details in this issue. (D-12t/MG)

**LANGUAGE MAINTENANCE** Vol. 1 #3 ($3 from Box 121, 2745 Winnetka Ave. N, New Hope, MN 55427): An enjoyably curmudgeonly zine about words and their misuse in modern times. Editor Patricia Maynard goes after such abominations as "obsess over" and "processies", as well as some other usage which seems to be on the way to acceptance whether traditionalists like it or not. Very witty, and not afraid to take unpopular stands, as with the call for a reconsideration of book burning in this issue. (S-10/MG)

LAUGHTER WORKS Vol. 2 #3 ($15/yr from 222 Selby Ranch Rd. #4, Sacramento, CA 95864): Laughter as therapy for everyday situations is the topic here. Often they're interested in using humor and lightheartedness as a way to increase business productivity, and though some suggestions sound silly they would certainly make the working day more fun. A few jokes creep in around the edges. (S-8t/MG)

**THE LAVENDER NETWORK** Sept.-Nov. 1990 (Suggested donation $10+/yr from PO Box 5421, Eugene, OR 97405): A community gay and lesbian journal with a wide spectrum of features, from a column for bisexuals to an extensive calendar of events. In addtion to news bits, essays and fiction, the September issue has a report from the Gay Games and more bad news about hate crimes. November has a strong column opposing pedophilia. (S-80t/MG)

□**A LEAP OF FAITH** #1 ($1 from Steve Shickman, 16739 Old Manchester, Grover, MO 63040): A "pirate paper" composed of clippings from the mainstream media. There's notes on racism, politics, South Africa, insensitive Japanese politicians, and so on. (D-16t/MG)

**LEFT BUSINESS OBSERVER** #40-41 ($2 from 250 W. 85th St., New York, NY 10024-3217): Radical and otherwise left economic and business analysis, pitched for the thoughtful layman. The lead story in #40 is the invasion of Iraq, from the bankruptcy of the Bush administration's policies to the realities of oil "shortages". #41 continues their series on the major media with a look at the **LOS ANGELES TIMES.** (S-8t/MG)

**THE LETTER PARADE** Sept.-Oct. 1990 ($10/yr from Bonnie Jo Enterprises, PO Box 52, Comstock, MI 49041): More musings from Bonnie Jo and Co. in letter form. Bonnie Jo takes a look at her dog (whose past includes a stint in jail) and wonders what he'd say if he could talk, compiles some LOC's and a questionnaire about the Almighty American Auto, and reprints some rather quirky news items from the mainstream that sure don't look like they're mainstream. (S-6/CG)

**LETTERA** 1-4 ($10? from presso l'instituto alvar aalto, museo dell'architettura e delle arti applicate, via antonelli 6 10025 Italy): Huge xerox sheet sets each in a colorful plastic sleeve, these contained essays of rarefied and unclear aesthetic writing in Italian, French & German, with quotes from Mallarme and Valery to link it all to the grand French tradition of preciosity. (O-8 ea./JR)

**THE LETTER EXCHANGE** #22 ($8 from PO Box 6218, Albany, CA 94706): This one is mostly a service for letter-writers, a way to find dozens of interesting people to write to—or to let them find you. They do a blind forwarding deal for subscribers, print letters about letters, and generally encourage the not-quite-lost-yet art of correspondence. (D-36t/MG)

**LIBERTARIAN ALLIANCE** publications (Contact at 1 Russell Chambers, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London, WC2E 8AA): The Libertarian Alliance issues papers in quite a number of subject areas, all intended to show the benefits of laissez-faire free markets and strictly limited government. Recent titles include **BOOM AND SLUMP IN SPACE** by SF author James Hogan and Kevin Dowd's **THE CASE AGAINST "INDUSTRIAL POLICY".** If rational argument on behalf of liberty appeals to you, this is one mailing list you

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should get on. (Various A4/MG)

**LIBERTARIAN FAMILIST** vol.9 #7 (Stimulating and unintentionally amusing, as most Libertarian writing tends to be, this shock-the-liberals issue condemns day-care as "warehousing children" as says they're no better than 17th century pest-houses. Also a wee article calling for drug-legalization. Refreshing. (S-6t/JR)

**LIBERTARIAN LABOR REVIEW** #9 ($5/yr from PO Box 2824, Champaign, IL 61825): Anarcho-syndicalism is still alive around the world, as the dozens of short articles and excerpts here reveal. In the US, things are more shaky, as discussed in the article "Last Chance for the IWW?" of value for their international organization and strong support for an anarchist position that is less than popular in the movement these days. (S-44t/MG)

**LIBIDO** Vol. 2 #4 ($6 from PO Box 146721, Chicago, IL 60614): A magazine of sex, sexuality, and sensuality, a bit raunchy in spots but obviously devoted to being non-sexist and unusual. There are several tales of sexual adventures in tourist spots, William Roorbach's story "Blind Date" of a clumsy experience for a couple of teens, and one of Marco Vassi's classy bits of erotica. Panty-wearing in males, unusually posed black and white photos, May/December sex, and other varied themes strut their stuff here. Well done and classy. (D-72t/MG)

**LIFE ON PLANET EARTH** (Free from the Embassy of Planet Claire, PO Box 3194, Bellingham, WA 98227): This is the swan song of **LOPE** as the EPC is moving on to greater galaxies. Never fear, though, as a new publication will arise soon, with a few of the same features and (hopefully) similar style. Here we look into Homeworld, home of the vegetative Raktil species, find out about how pigs fly, and discover the history of the Esquidomobile—a car resembling a chocolate covered iguana. Fun in a galactic sort of way. (S-4t/CG)

**LIGHT AND LIBERTY** #8 ($3 from Lawrence E. Christopher, PO Box 33, Woodstock, NY 12498): The Samhain and Anti-Election Day issue, in which Lawrence describes in layman's terms the origin of our Halloween and its relation to the duality of nature. "The Aesthetics of Apathy" is a coherent essay defining what most of us involved in any search for the alternative believe in. His anti-election argument might not stand up in the hallowed halls of Congress, but it's something I think many of us can appreciate. (S-5/CG)

**LINCOLN BULLETIN** #77-81 (SASE (?) from PO Box 94629, Lincoln, NE 68509-4629): A disjointed literary collection that comes out on paper of different shapes and sizes, apparently depending on the material. Small poems, riffs about the way that civilization tries to make deer into cattle, illustrations copped from obscure sources. (D-2/MG)

**LINGUA** #3 (Information from Sarah Ovenall, 703 Ninth St. #325, Durham, NC 27705): An amateur press association for the discussion of language, featuring a mix of linguists and interested amateurs. Everything from Latin to Cantonese to lojban gets mentioned here, with bits of the International Phonetic Alphabet flying furiously, along with discussion of languages in SF, learning new languages, and a zillion other things. Off to a great start, with some of the best (and occasionally most contentious) apahacks around. (S-94/MG)

**LINKS** Vol. 3 #1 ($1 from 735 Wolseley Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3G 1C4, CANADA): A newsletter formed to link together many activist and peace groups in the Winnipeg area, this one is still underutilized but looking pretty good. This issue addresses junk mail, logging, patriarchy as an enemy to the environment and the situation in Chile. Includes a directory of local groups. (S-16t/MG)

**□lisa'sjournalnotes** #1 ($1.50 from Lisa Baldwin, 32 Fischer Ave., Islip Terrace, NY 11752): This first issue is mainly a sort of meta-journal, a statistical study of Lisa's own diary-keeping: when she wrote it, how much, what embellishes the pages, and so on. There are also notes on the books she read over the summer and—combining the two themes—on books that feature diaries or journals. Other diary-related material is planned for future issues. (S-28/MG)

**LITERARY MARKETS** #54 ($15/yr from PO Drawer 1310, Point Roberts, WA 98281-1310): Quick pointers and market news for the beginning writer looking for places to be published, even ones that pay only in copies. They get a few dozen in each issue, and include contests, anthologies, and now zines appearing only on diskette among their listings. (S-6t/MG)

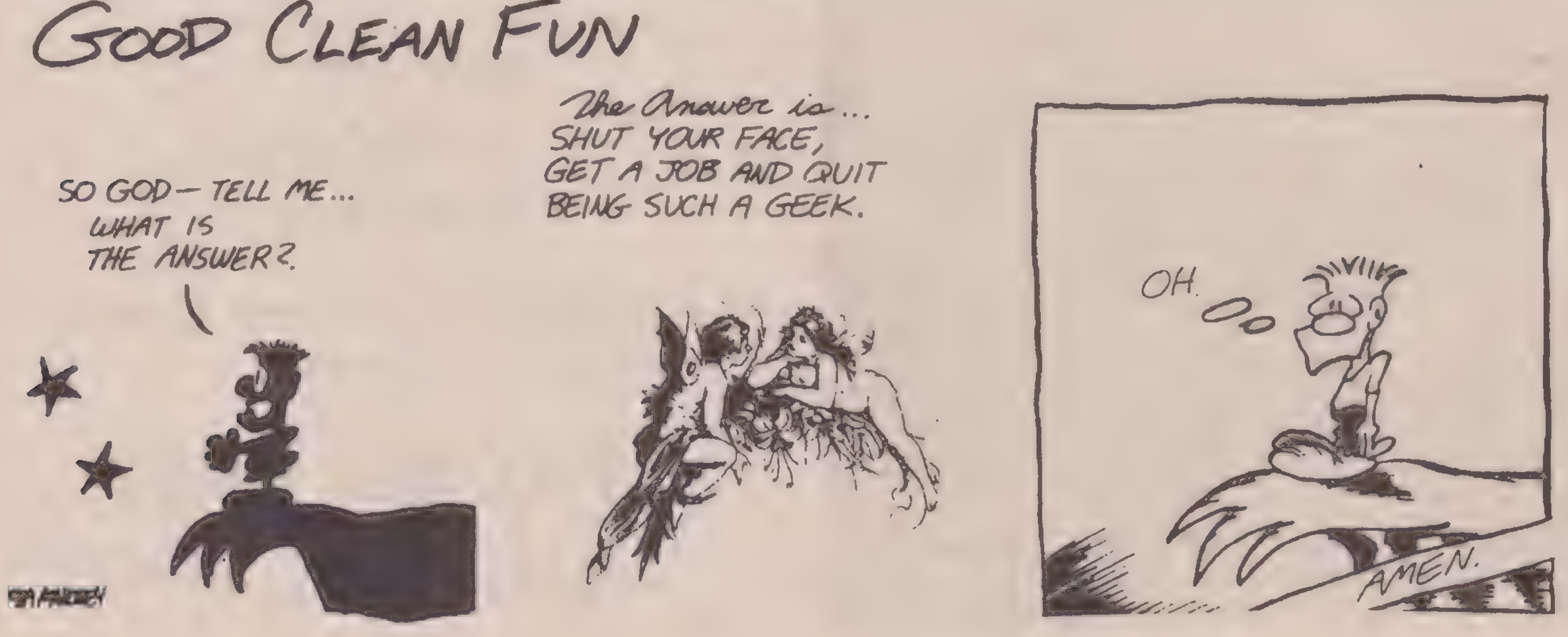
**LITTLE FREE PRESS** #77-80 (Free for postage from Rt. 1 Box 102, Cushing, MN 56443): More thoughts on abolishing money to make the world a better place, from Ernest Mann, who has been living a sane and simple life for years now. He gives this newsletter away in the hopes of inspiring others to follow his lead. #78 talks in part about the prevention of war through this system. (S-4t/MG)

**LITTLE SKULL'S BAY-BEE** #15 (1 stamp from Carrie, PO Box 481051, Los Angeles, CA 90048): A small zine of punk life and opinions. Carrie asks a question or two every time and invites readers to answer it, which they do, often at length. This time it's the high and low points of high school and favorite foods that fill the pages. Also has some neat underground art. (M-8/MG)

**LIVING AMONG NATURE DARINGLY** #13 ($2.50 from 4466 Ike Mooney Rd., Silverton, OR 97381): A zine for those trying to get back to the land, with some emphasis on trapping and hunting as well as wild plants. This issue has some comments on the "Universal Edibility Test", an article about medicinal roots, and a look at the elusive fisher. (D-32t/MG)

**LIVING FREE** #59 ($1.25 from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): Jim's notes on freedom and other topics, with an eye towards actually getting free instead of staging a revolution. This issue discusses the proper powers of the federal government, has pieces on jury nullification and water cress, and plenty of ads from others working on similar projects. (S-8r/MG)

**LIVING LOVE** Summer 1990 (Donation from Port Centauri, PO Box 11919, Pueblo, CO 81001): Newsletter of a group forming a rural New Age community, with some hints that they eventually expect to see someone landing there. A curious mix of community and vortices, buffalo preservation and being One with all that is. (S-8t/MG)


GOOD CLEAN FUN
SO GOD — TELL ME... WHAT IS THE ANSWER?
The Answer is... SHUT YOUR FACE, GET A JOB AND QUIT BEING SUCH A GEEK.
OH.
AMEN.

**LIVIN' IN A POWDER KEG AND GIVIN' OFF SPARKS** #8 (Contact Full Force Productions, 453 Bay Ridge Ave. $614, New York, NY 11220): If you want to get this one you first have to request a disclaimer form from Full Force—don't put the zine name on the envelope—and after completing it you'll get ordering instructions. Inside is a mess of mass murderers, shoe and amputee fetishism, firearms, fantasies, and gory art. For the strong of stomach only. Letters from readers in this issue make me think seriously about locking my doors and buying weapons—this is one sick crew. (S-80t/MG)

**LIZZENGREASY** Vol. 1 #9-10 ($2 *CASH* from Dai Ni Kuroda Kopo 203, Funabashi 5-30-6, Setagaya-Ku, Tokyo 156, JAPAN): The English-language look at Japanese culture continues to amuse. #9 is the "Education" issue, with a fabulous article on how to teach English in Japan and make a lot of money to finance your vacation (it must work; Mykel Board is getting away with it). There's also Greasy Fletcher's ruminations on the (minimal) worth of education, and as always zine reviews and fish stories. #10 goes into the "Technology" arena, giving a different view of technology's status in Japan, from TVs at work to the coming changes in fishing lures. (S-20r/MG)

**LLEWELLYN NEW TIMES** Sept./Oct. 905 ($2 from PO Box 64383, St. Paul, MN 55164-0383): America's oldest publisher of esoterics, consciousness growth and general spirituality, this is *the* place to go for books and articles dealing with such. Mostly a catalog for books and accessories, there are also articles, such as the interview with Goddess Calendar artist Lisa Iris and an exploration of Gypsy Dream Reading. Also hints on how to plan just about anything via moon signs. (S-76t/CG)

□**LOGNET** 90/1-90/3($50/2 yrs from The Loglan Institute, 1701 NE 75th St., Gainesville, FL 326001): The official newsletter of Loglan, the logical language which many of us first ran across in **THE MOON IS A HARSH MISTRESS**, and intended as an aid to testing the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis (among other things). It's got discussions of the design of the language (still apparently ongoing), bits of translated text, linguistic arguments, notes on computer software to help in learning Loglan, and more. (HL28t/MG)

**LOLA-FISH** #7 ($2 *CASH* from . Pommey, 36 res. Jean Macé, 28300 Mainvilliers, FRANCE): An international journal of mail art featuring mainly European work. There is some collage, some arty posters, some photographic and photocopy manipulations. The issue ends with a selection of zine reviews and show announcements. (A4-20/MG)

**LONE STAR SOCIALIST** #9 ($6 from Socialist Party of Texas, PO Box 2640, Austin, TX 78768): Left-leaning labor news for the good folks in Texas. Besides plenty of short news bits, this issue has a couple of more major articles. One is a report on The Other Economic Summit, bringing out both the strengths and weaknesses of that event. Another is a selection of socialist proposals for improving housing. (S-12/MG)

**LONGEVITY REPORT** #23 ($11.88/6 issues from J. de Rivaz, c/o Longevity Books, West Town House, Porthtowan, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 8AX, UK): A newsletter for people interested in life extension, new drugs that might help, therapies and cryonic suspension—in short, a whole range of ways to beat the reaper. #23 looks at the drug Vinpocetine and has an analysis of ways to finance cryonics. (A4-20t/MG)

□**THE LOSER** (Contact Glenn Norman, PO Box 57, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane, QLD 4006, AUSTRALIA): This downbeat zine is so depressed that the publisher doesn't want to bother putting his address on, but Glenn will pass on requests and maybe you'll get a copy, It's half an advice column without the advice—that is, people write in with their depressing troubles and miserable lives and receive no answers in return. The other half is reprints from Australian tabloids, computer manuals, and other dismal examples of English prose. (A4-50t/MG)

**THE LOST PERUKE** XXIII ($6.50/6 months from PM Kellerman, PO Box 1525, Highland Park, NJ 08904): Humor and rambling in a sometimes dry vein. This issue has the expected Mideast jokes, an unexpected page on David Souter, and some entirely imaginary news about celebrities. The editor's summer vacation comes into it too. (D-36/MG)

□**LOUDER THAN BOMBS** #1-2 ($2 from 2313 Santa Anita Ave. S., El Monte, CA 91733): Litmag filled with various poetry of relatively "normal" lives without any direct course, but moving ahead with subsequent issues. #1 is mostly poetry: #2 has more prose interspersed with photocopied photos that combine intelligently with the content. Check out Charles T. Labelle's "Taste of Cindy"—an engrossing story of a prostitute with a most curious condition. (S-55/CG)

**LOVER'S REVOLT** #9 (Free but Donations Accepted from PO Box 6042, Minneapolis, MN 55406): A peaceful collection of quotes and blurbs from a wide range of sources, mostly about Love and how much we all need it. Now it's not as hippy-dippy as you might imagine—once you get past the pictures of flowers and beads. These folks are concerned with love, the environment, and a bit of world music. They aim to spread the word. #9 came with a pamphlet which is pretty much a utopian plea for public ownership of economic institutions, some finger-pointing and an opinion (with which I disagree) that human nature is subject to change. (D-20r/CG)

**LUNO** 5:5-5:6 ($10/9 issues from Gene Lehman, 31960 SE Chin St., Boring, OR 97009): LUNO stands for Learning Unlimited Network of Oregon, in which Gene speaks out on a number of issues about education, the more highlighted being Educational Choice Initiative, home-schooling, and basically more independent choice when it comes to the education of our children. It's the first I've seen where the self-esteem of parents and students are regarded as essential. Bravo! Also contained are phonetic games designed to mnemonically enlighten—and succeed. (S-10/CG)

**MADAM X's TRUE LOVE MAGAZINE** ($1 (?) from 3747 Roberta St., Los Angeles, CA 90031): Madam X issues these colorful minis on an irregular schedule, bringing a message of love and peace to the world. This issue, in mock-tabloid format, reports on the Human Being Society taking over the world, plugs peace as a worthwhile goal, and tries to encourage the idea that life is meant for living. (D-12/MG)

**THE MADISON INSURGENT** Vol. 4 #7-9 ($15/22 issues from PO Box 704, Madison, WI 53701-0704): A biweekly radical paper that manages to bring out a lot of interesting news while occasionally poking politicos and other empowered people pretty hard. #7 reports on a survey of the paper's gay readership and the deteriorating situation for the homeless in town. (T-12t/MG)

□**MADWOMAN** #1 ($ 2 (?) from SisterSerpents, 1026 N. Winchester, Chicago, IL 60657): A new feminist journal that's downright aggressive towards sexist men. They come largely out of a Mail Art milieu, and present many mass-media images plastered with things like "Misogyny: Look it Up, Stamp It Out!" (I hope these are available as stickers). There's also an advice column for confused women, anorexia/bulimia thoughts, short stories, and a rampaging cover. (S-48/MG)

**MAGICAL BLEND** #29 ($4 from PO Box 11303, San Francisco, CA 94101): A "transformative journey" New Age magazine which picks up a lot of top personalities in the movement. This one goes from NLP to gay spirituality, with a couple of stops on the addiction and creativity plain. Robert Anton Wilson is on about an Irish abortion case, Z. Budapest and Eliza Gilkyson give interviews, and all is superbly and professionally produced. A lot of the ads strike me as slightly dubious, but then, I'm a skeptic from way back. (S-104t/MG)

**MAINE IN PRINT** Vol.V #8-10 ($20/yr. from MWPA, 19 Mason St., Brunswick, ME 04011): All sorts of very useful info for the in-state litterateur, from course offerings to a list of zines soliciting contribs. Also reviews and articles on the small literary press—this issue has a feature on Alicejamesbooks Collective, a somewhat gynocentric group in Cambridge. The lead story in #8 is on the censorship fight in Maine—Judy Blume's "Forever" excised from a middle school library, and more of the like. (T-12t/JR)

**MAINE PROGRESSIVE** Vol. 5 #1-2 ($10/yr from 387 Gorham Rd., Scarborough, ME 04074): A multi-faceted journal of peace and social justice, focused on groups active in Maine. From domestic violence to the Mideast crisis to folk songs and contra dancing, this one is essentially a meeting place for a horde of groups. Their list of contacts and events in every issue is quite extensive. (T-32t/MG)

**MAIN EVENT** Oct. 1990 ($1 from Slammers Wrestling Gyn, PO Box 1602, Studio City, CA 91614): A quickie wrestling sheet which is mostly a promo for Slammers, one of the few places that will try to turn even you into a wrestler. It's a combination calendar, name-dropping arena and merchandise promo. (L-4/MG)

**MAINE IN PRINT** Vol. 5 #6 ($15/yr from Maine Writers &

Publishers Alliance, 19 Mason St., Brunswick, Maine 04011): For the in-state Litterateur. this has an events calendar, pertinent news briefs, book reviews and a list of submissions requested. An excellent bulletin board, and in this number little more. (T-12t/JR)

☐**MALEDICTA MONITOR** #1 ($8/4 issues from Aman, 331 S. Greenfield Ave., Waukesha, WI 53186): A new newsletter companion to the fat journal of dirty words, **MALEDICTA**. This is way to learn rapidly of new colorful insults, old used slurs, and twenty different derogatory terms for white people, among other things. Amazingly insensitive in spots, but a valuable historical document of our age. (S-4t/MG)

**MANDRAGOORA** #8-9 ($2 *CASH* from Marcel Ruijters, P. Jacobsstr. 6, 6133 Am Sittard, NETHERLANDS): Crazy mixed-up anatomical drawings. #8 is in Marcel's usual style, all distorted features and stretched limbs and exaggerated size differences, like those drawings **LIFE** magazine used to do of "How the world looks to an LSD addict". #9 is faces, lots of them, in increasing stages of anger. (M-36/MG)

☐**MANNEQUINIZED!** #1 ($1 from Nonoxynol-9, PO Box 7792, Rego Park, NY 11374): A zine of mannequins, crime and life in New York City from the disturbingly prolific John Six. With newspaper clippings, photos of mannequins, rubber stmapings and collage, he presents a city filled with rape and robbery and drug murders, a nasty place to live, relieved only by the sight of the soothing plastic people. Very odd. (D-24/MG)

**MANTEIA** #4 ($55 surface or $65 air for 5 issues from Sheila Wilding, 17645 Via Sereno, Los Gatos, CA 95030): Sheila is the US agent for this magazine of Tarot and other fortunetelling cards, edited by K. Frank Jensen in Denmark. There are articles about an astounding number of decks here, illustrated in loving detail with plenty of reproductions. Some authors look at links to other systems such as ogham, while others are content to review books or decks. (A4-54t/MG)

☐**MARKTIME** #1 (45¢ in stamps from Mark Strickert, 8765 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago, IL 60631): Veteran zine publisher Strickert now jumps into another area, as yet undefineable but nonetheless fun. First issue deals mostly with hobby lists like radio, stickers, (he's been the head honcho at **DECALCOMANIA**) tape trading and sports. He's also listed stories as an option, but seems rather hesitant about that. A few zine reviews round it all out with promises for more developed future issues. (D-21r/CG)

**MARVIN THE LEHTI** V.9 #2 (The Usual from Ari Veintie, Harjukatu 6A2A, SF-00500 Helsinki, Finland): This is an English-language special issue, a gift from the editors who want the world to know that "lehti" means "zine." This lehti is SF-oriented, with an alternative tourist guide to Helsinki, mythical beings in Finnish Folklore and an introduction to the Zeppelin Society—whose goals so far include vast overeating and drinking Absolut. Fun and internationally elucidating. (D-23t/CG)

**MATRIX** #89 (£12/yr from BSFA, c/o Joanne Raine, 33 Thornville Rd., Hartlepool, Cleveland, TS26 8EW, UK): The newszine of the British Science Fiction Association. It features reviews of current books and movies, SF-related contests, convention reports, strange stfnal trivia questions, awards, and more. They cram a lot in, and the result is a rather dignified guide to a sometimes-undignified part of fandom. (A4-24t/MG)

☐**MAWEWI** Vol. 1 #6 ($1 (?) from PO Box 874, Mahwah, NJ 07430): A selection of facts and curious quotes. There's the history of the dollar, a Japanese spacelab experiment, the rotation of the Earth, ways to attract birds, and the pros and cons of recycled paper, among other goodies in this issue. Entertaining stuff. (S-8t/MG)

**MAXINE'S TWO PAGES** #10 ($1 from Crystal Rain Agency, PO Box 866, Manchester, GA 31816): A wandering review, often tied to the law enforcement field. This issue gives pointers to a couple of catalogs that will sell you survivalist and firearms supplies. There's also a lead story ripped into small shreds, since apparently it ticked off too many people. (S-2/MG)

**MAY BE** #5 (SASE (?) from Carol Schneck, 749 Niagara, San Francisco, CA 94112-2448): A short collection of writings and clippings. There is a first-person account (presumably from Carol) about thoughts during a father's visit to the emergency room. Also a few photos and a nasty news story of landlordicide. (S-4/MG)

**MEN TALK** Vol. 14 #3 ($2.50 from The Men's Center, 3255 Hennepin Ave. S #45, Minneapolis, MN 55408): News from a bunch of men trying to work together on things like self-understanding and spiritual growth. This issue has some interesting critiques of the project from those who feel it is serving too small a portion of the community, as well as the usual calendar and events-related stuff. (S-28t/MG)

**MENTERTAINMENT** Sept.-Nov. 1990(50¢ and Age Statement from Box 9445, Elizabeth NJ 07202): Well and heavily illustrated promo-zine for go-go bars. There's bar reviews, correspondence, many pleasant ads: the editrix informs the whole with her sociable good cheer. To pan this zine you'd have to be a hypocrite or a spoilsport. Separate editions cover New York and the South Jersey-Pennsylvania area. (S-44t/JR/MG)

**MESECHABE** #7 ($3 from 7725 Cohn St., New Orleans, LA 70118): A sort of combination bioregional-literary-political publication. They all come together in Edward Sanders' longpoem "Green Economics" in this one, which explores the issues and the process for changing them. There's some Andre Breton, some memories from the Ozarks, and other goodies here too. (S-28t/MG)

**MESSAGE POST** Oct. 1990 ($1 from PO Box 190, Philomath, OR 97370): A reader-written newsletter for people living portably, whether this means long-term camping or horseback travel or whatever. Full of ideas on re-using old objects, getting rid of ticks, novel shelter sources, building community among nomads, and more. They also have lots of contact and reference information available. (D-20r/MG)

**MEZLIM** Vol 1 #4 ($6 from N'Chi, PO Box 19566, Cincinnati, OH 45219): A classy and well-done journal of magick. This issue is mainly devoted to sex magick, including a wonderful set of exercises by Antero Alli designed to get you in touch with "concept-free sexuality". Others look at sex magick rituals new and old and report on other parts of the modern magickal scene. Something for most adventurous people here, including hints on how to pursue more serious studies. (S-54t/MG)

**MGM** Oct.-Nov. 90 ($1 Sample copy from PO Box 1124, Keene, NH 03431): This stands for Monadnock Gay Men and serves as an informational broadsheet for the gay community of the Keene area. Bits of gubernatorial gossip, National Coming Out Day (October 11) and social events and updates for the coming month, as well as a few jabs at Mr. Bush and Mr. Helms. (S-1/CG)

**MICROFICTIONS** #3-4 (50cents (?) from Erik Kosberg, 2816 Xerxes Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55416): Short-short fictions that fit on one side of a postcard—sometimes reading them through the cancellations can be a challenge. #3 is Erik's own "Report on Citizen 257-63-2285", a strange tale of a would-be SF writer. #4 is a "Letter From Texas", penned by the down-home W. Joe Hoppe. (M-1t/MG)

**MICROWAVE NEWS** Vol. 10 #5 ($250/yr from PO Box 1799, Grand Central Sta., New York, NY 10163): Though the smoking guns aren't all in yet, it is starting to look definite that there's a connection between low-level radiation (put out by power lines, radio station transmitters, electric blankets and computer screens) and cancer and various other nasty health problems. The research continues to be abstracted as it happens in this professional journal, complete with full citations. Worth selling your local library on a subscription. (S-16t/MG)

**MILLION YEAR PICNIC** Groovy Ish #3 ($1 from PO Box 21311, Santa Barbara, CA 93121): Slightly inexplicable but much fun, this had interviews with rappers, movie theatre and pool-hall employees, coverage of cartoon-character movies, and a mean but snazzy tale of teen hooliganismo. If I owned a coffee table, this would be on it. Failing that I'm proud to have it on my floor. (D-24/JR)

**MIRKWOOD** Vol. 1 #2 ($1 from Joe Lane, PO Box 4083, Terre Haute, IN 47804-4083): This is Joe's place to talk about the alternative press and the hassles involved in it. This issue repeats the story of the rise and fall of **FNORD**, though without much new information. There's also some book reviews. (S-4/MG)

**MISC.** #49-50 ($6/yr paper or $9/yr Fax from Clark Humphrey, 1630 Boylston #203, Seattle, WA 98122): "A Report on Popular Culture in Seattle and Beyond" that packs a lot of wallop in two pages. Whether it's the scam of the new Seattle bus tunnel, the use of rock songs in commercials, government subsidies for TV R&D or "Nintendo Thumb", Clark has plenty of amusing and interesting things to say. Truly these are days of great confusion. (S-2t/MG)

**MOBILITY LTD.** Vol. 6 #4 ($14/yr, or write to enquire about trial subscriptions, from 401 Linden Center Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80524): This magazine proves that a mobility-impairing injury need not be a disability. There are articles here on gardening from a wheelchair, golfing, even skydiving! There's a farmer who went back to running a combine despite serious injuries, and a guide to new products on the market. (S-32t/MG)

□**MODOM** 5 (25¢ plus SASE from Jake Berry, PO Box 3112, Florence, AL 35630): a 17" x 11" broadsheet of poetry and "incidental drawings" by some of the heavier hitters around today. Chris Winkler, Bob Grumman and "The Kingsnake" offer up some engaging graphics—I especially enjoyed John Bennett's "Your Face A Plastic Bag"—Ge(of) Huth's "Mass Piece" points (literally) to some well-established conceptions about Christianity. On the whole, this little poster would be a nice eye and mind diversion tacked above your desk. (O-1/CG)

**MONSTER** Vol.2 #17-20 (40¢ from Kronos Productions, Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): "We only review MONSTER films, none of that slasher stuff," reads the self-advertisement. *Arachnophobia* and *Darkman* are center-staged in #17, D.M. scoring high, in contrast to higher-priced productions like Batman. #18 spotlights *Frankenhooker*. Vampire coverage runs through #18 and 19. Good clear coverage of the genre. #20 is the special Halloween issue, featuring essays on why and how monsters become funny in the eyes of viewers, whether intentional or not. Also reviewed is the brand new Tom Savini version of *Night of the Living Dead*. (D-8t/JR/MG/CG)

**THE MONTHLY MEANDER** Vol. 3 #1 (Donation from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): Back again from a new publisher (now that I've retired), this remains a reader-written anarchist zine. Folks here discuss dealing with racists, doing without work, poetry and art, and other things, all from an "evolutionary anarchist" perspective. A haven for the non-bomb throwers in the movement. (L-3t/MG)

□**MOOL** #1 ($1 from Allan Horrocks, 793 1/2 Manning Ave., Toronto, ONT Canada MG6 2W7): Litmag of absurdist prose, childrens' writing, often wonderful computer generated humorous graphics, expressionist woodcuts and nonsense poetry. Senseless but exuding coolness. (D-16t/JR)

**MSRRT NEWSLETTER** Vol. 3 #8-9 (45¢ postage from Chris Dodge, 4645 Columbus Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55407): A newsletter for socially-conscious librarians, of which there are quite a few—though not as many as one might imagine. Right now one of their prime causes is organizing alternative Columbus Day celebrations, from the point of view of those whose continent was "discovered". There's also a continuing list of interesting resources and fanzines, as well as reportage on library conventions. (S-16/MG)

**MUSHROOM MAIL**, No. 3 (an IRC or two from Woody CC, 44 Rue de Lourmel, 75015 Paris, FRANCE): One of my favorite French magazines because it's always doing something interesting. Mushroom Mail for this issue is a single sheet of paper folded nearly into a square. This issue is the first to contain material from people besides Woody CC. There is a poem/collage by Didier Manyach, two prakalpana poems from India (one of which is translated into Bengali), and erotic drawings by Yumiko Miyaki, a Japanese living in Katmandu who sent along a text in English explaining the reaction of other Japanese to the drawings. A surprise around every fold. (M-12) (Review by Geof Huth)

**MUSEUM INSIGHTS** Vol. 2 #6 ($5 from PO Box 313, North Amherst, MA 01059): A guide to unusual little museums (and a few big ones) across the country. The lead article this time is on a display of architect Louis Sullivan's work, much of which is cleverly installed at the campus of Southern Illinois University. There's also an art museum in Orange, Texas, a few short notes, and news and notes. (S-8t/MG)

**MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SELF-HELP PROJECT NEWLETTER** Vol. 5 #1 (On request from M. Messinger, PO Box 7573, Berkeley, CA 94707): A quick look across the world of multiple sclerosis. Rather than endorse any particular treatment, Messinger collects info from all over. There are book reviews, pamphlet notes, and the occasional reporting on a meeting or two. (S-3t/MG)

**MY KINDA ZINE** #5 (Trade from Michael Peace, PO Box 12244, Denver, CO 80212): More sightings of racism continue to haunt Michael, whether it is Native American, Black or White. His rant this month also speaks to those who would drink and drive—he's a living testimony and victim of it. No more reviews, but an interview with Lance of Cringer and some pretty scary clippings from mainstream publications, one of them being on the burning of record albums in Colorado. (S-10/CG)

**THE MYSTERY FANCIER** Vol. 12 #2-3 ($7.50 from Guy M. Townsend, 2024 Clifty Dr., Madison, IN 47250): A zine for serious lovers of mystery novels, with a lot of attention to classics as well as new publications. There's a fine article on Bob Tucker's mysteries in #2 from Len Moffatt, as well as plenty of reviews, mystery trivia, and interesting letters. #3 supplies a defense of Mickey Spillane and a good many short reviews. (D-102t/MG)

**NAAPM NEWSLETTER** #45 ($10/4 issues from 2735 Benvenue #3, Berkeley, CA 94705): The newsletter of the National Association for the Advancement of Perry Mason. In #45 they talk to director Christian Nyby (who did Perry Mason in the 50's and 60's), investigate Perry's relationship with Della (he actually proposed three times in the books), and look at the newer made for TV movies. (D-20r/MG)

**N'APA** #126 (Contact Tim Gatewood, PO Box 12921, Memphis, TN 38182-0921): A rather traditional Amateur Press Association—meaning that it's based in the SF community and devoted to chat about nothing in particular. Music, science fiction, movies, the Hubble Space Telescope, traffic accidents, you name it, it's probably in here. Aimed at newcomers, and pretty friendly. (S-131/MG)

□**THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN** Aug. 1990 ($12/yr; checks payable to Donald Franson but send to William T. Center,m 1920 Division St., Murphysboro, IL 62966): The newsletter of the National

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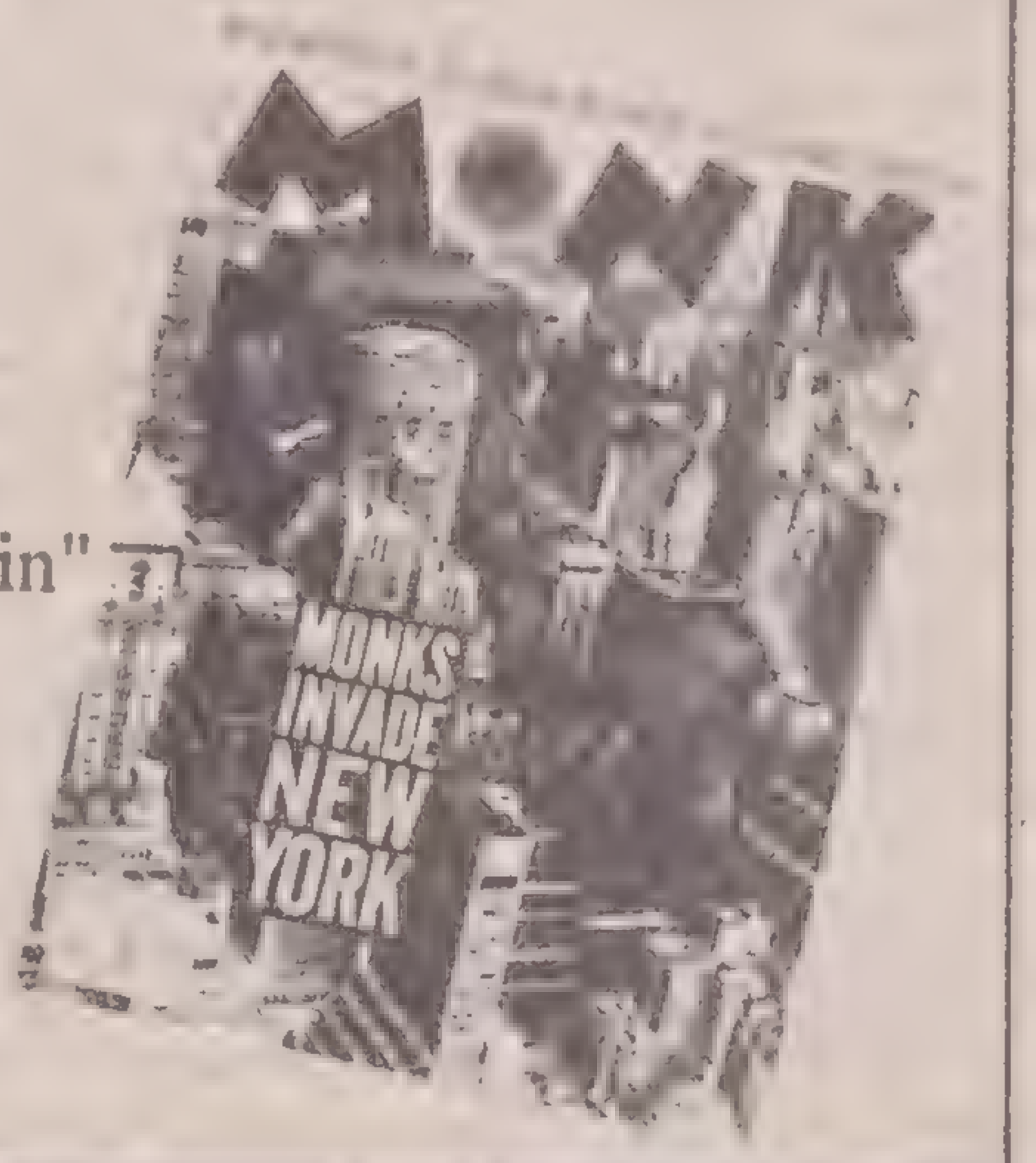

Fantasy Fan Federation, otherwise known as the N3F, a group of SF fans banded together to have fun and introduce new people to the hobby. They track apas and zines and cons, sponsor round robin letters, and help folks understand the history and traditions of fandom. (S-20/MG)

**THE NATIONALIST** #58 ($1 from NDF, PO Box 30505, Knoxville, TN 37930): The newsletter of the National Democratic Front, our own batch of home-grown Neo-Nazis. Most of #58 explains that the war in the Mideast is not about oil, but about using American troops to protect the interests of "world Jewry". Presumably we convinced Hussein to invade Kuwait to give us the excuse to fight back. I am not impressed. (S-8t/MG)

**NEOLOGY** #71 (C$3.50 from ESFACAS, Box 4071, PSSE, Edmonton, Alberta,, T6E 4S8, CANADA): A SF fanzine which is one of my main links to what's going on in Canadian fandom. No one in the States, for example, ever seems to write about the Aurora winners, much less the design of the trophies. There's also gaming, cereal reviews, fanzines, letters, environmental horror, and lots more here. (S-34t/MG)

**NEW AGE PATRIOT** Vol. 1 #3 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 419, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127): A zine which promotes the idea of reforming our drug system to legalize everything and so put the crack dealers out of business. Cocaine for $4 a gram, they say, would be a reasonable free market price. In this issue they also push large-scale hemp—a.k.a. marijuana—growing for biomass methanol as a substitute to relying on imported oil. (S-8t/MG)

□**THE NEW DANCE REVIEW** Vol. III #1-2 ($5 from Anita Finkel, 32 W. 82nd St. #2F, New York, NY 10024): Well, none of us at FF knows much about modern dance, but this publication reads easily and seems to know what it's talking about. In #1 there's a look at the career of Paul Taylor, a critical evaluation of an adaptation of *Carmen* for ice skaters, a list of forthcoming shows, and an intriguing section of short quotes. #2 talks about the current Bolshoi season and has an excerpt from a new book about Nijinsky. (S-24t/MG)

**NEW ENVIRONMENT BULLETIN** #176-178 ($6.50/yr from Bill Case, 120 Academy St., Manlius, NY 13104): A community-building newsletter for a group—the New Environment Association—trying to work out new ways of living together to save the earth. Much of this is internal doings, news on the building fund and future events, but there are also thoughtful essays, especially by Harry Schwarzlander who appears to be the keeper of the group's memories. (S-6t/MG)

**NEW FORCES** Vol. 2 #8 ($5/12 issues from #176, 6505 E. Central, Wichita, KS 67206): A zine of political thought from (I think) a Falangist point of view. This issue discusses the downfall of General Aoun in Lebanon and the destiny of America. It also reviews a mixed bag of political and science fiction books. (S-12/MG)

**NEW HAMPSHIRE FEDERATIONIST** #6 (Contact National Federation of the Blind of New Hampshire, PO Box 1696, Laconia, NH 03247-1696): "We are changing what it means to be blind" is the slogan on the masthead of this large-print zine, which is also available in cassette and diskette versions. Much of this issue concerns their annual convention, with the program and some notes on the speakers. They also present an autobiography from one member and talk a bit about resources for the blind and ways to fight discrimination against blind people. (S-12t/MG)

**THE NEW HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE** Vol. 234, #6-7 ($5/8 issues from 37 Skunk Farm Road, Hillsborough, NH 03244): A feisty few pages of excellent clear thinking done in pungently phrased Yankee style, the sort of independent crustiness I once associated with America (during my Melville phase.) In #6, the editor proposes a "none of the above" voting option, of the type that has proved successful in the USSR, and lambastes the Iraq adventure with all the irony that disgrace deserves. Political common sense presented with uncommon verve. #7 goes into a plan that would actually tax the rich, a monetary cure that would be surefire political suicide. (T-2t/JR/MG)

□**NEW MARITIMES** Mar./Apr.-July/Aug. 1990 ($15/yr from Enfield, NS, B0N 1N0, CANADA): A journal of the culture, history and society of the Maritime provinces of Canada. The March issue looks at the local face of the environmental crisis, while the May issue introduces the Greens. July looks at land ownership in Nova Scotia, among other topics. Book reviews and opinion pieces are included with the articles. Told me lots about a part of the world most Americans are ignorant of. (S-36t/MG)

**THE 1990 NEW MOON DIRECTORY** ($3.75 from Eric L. Watts, 346 Carpenter Dr. #51, Atlanta, GA 30328-5030): This is an annual zine tracking all of the amateur press associations that Eric can find info on, nearly 200 in all (not all still in existence). Whether you want to discuss comics or sex or Star Trek or nothing in particular, NMD can link you up with a group of friendly folks interested in doing the same. (D-37r/MG)

**NEWS & LETTERS** Vol. 35 #8-9 ($2.50/yr from 59 E. Van Buren #707, Chicago, IL 60605): A Marxist-Humanist tabloid, which constantly lays out the correct line for the faithful. #8 opens with the war in the Mideast, which of course "demands total opposition". Later on they excerpt some of their guru Raya Dunayevskaka's writings on war and how to stop it. (T-12t/MG)

**THE NEW SETTLER INTERVIEW** #53 (75¢ from PO Box 730, Willits, CA 95490): The lead article in this alternative agricultural lifestyle zine is on a fellow who uses bacteria from horse-manure to compost toxic waste. Then there's a feature on a couple who raise Maples. Loaded with scientific and practical detail, along with ecocentric verse and fiction, this is, as regards its specialised topics, a very superior product. (T-56t/JR)

**NEWS FROM JOY BEFORE THE STORM** #8 ($1? from Benedictine Tapes, W179 N8587 Village Ct. Suite 8, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051-2679):Gently subversive collection of pungent & left-critical news & opinion items culled from the mainstream media; the highlight was a long letter some girl penned in study-hall in 1943, xeroxed in full, which was mildly amusing. Some more original material might make this one take shape. (S-10/JR)

**NEWSLETTER WITH NO NAME** Vol.3 #1 ($6 yr. from R.K.West consulting, PO Box 8059, Mission Hills, CA 91346): APA for Mensa-related persons, full of (in the light of that disclosure) explicable articles, e.g., dividing your estate fairly by assigning, or subtracting concern-points for your heirs. Best dibs on the grave-goods to the highest scorer. Heartless. (S-8t/JR)

**THE NEWS OF THE WATCHMEN** Sept. 1990 (Donation from Universal Church of God, HC 67 Box 135, Mount Ida, AR 71957): End-times apocalyptic Christian argument. In the September issue they explain why we *can* know when the end is near, and that it is here. They also print the text of a letter they sent to George Bush, letting him know God's demands for the USA. Weird and wild. (D-34r/MG)

**NEWS OF THE WEIRD** #3-4 ($8/7 issues from Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 57141, Washington, DC 20037): More fun and frolics from the nation's foremost collector of strange clippings. #3 includes stories (all true) of deranged church maintenance men, a candidate listing his occupation as "alleged white-collar racketeer", and thousands of flying condoms, among other things. (S-4t/MG)

**NEW UNIONIST** #160-161 ($3/10 issues from New Union Party, 621 W. lake St. #210, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A newspaper of basic syndicalist thought and recruiting. In #160, they look at the loss of faith people have in politics and suggest a reorganization to eliminate politicians entirely. #161 reportS on the S&L's, the state of banks in the US, and an interesting side bar about a quietly passed bill in the Senate which will expand the President's power to conduct covert-action operations. (T-4t/MG/CG)

□**NO BS** July 1990 ($1(?) from 555 Buckingham Way, San Francisco, CA 94132): A zine of clippings from "legitimate" sources which are out to prove that life is so absurd that there's no making sense of it—so just relax and enjoy it. And you can do that, too, just by reading one thwarted suicide attempt after another, followed by the letter about coffee enemas and a testament to buttocks biting. The editors have a keen eye for the absurd and a healthy sense of fringe humor. (S-22/CG)

**NO CONCEPT** #2 ($2 from Underground Publications, PO Box 14139, Arlington, TX 76094-1139): A zine of cultural leavings. There's some collage, a page of mindless facts, some truly dismal poetry, altered cartoons, and lots more. Mostly clippings and liberated material from dozens of sources. (S-18/MG)

**THE NOCTURNAL LYRIC** #18 ($1.25 from Susan, PO Box 2602, Pasadena, CA 91102-2602): A zine of short, sometimes nihilistic, fiction. The folks here are into dark stories of fantasy, horror and even a bit of SF: a corpse wakes up in the coffin, an anthropologist discovers horrifying rites at the local mall. A well-run low-budget litmag. (D-22r/MG)

**NO KKK - NO FASCIST USA!** Fall 1990 ($1 from 220 9th St. #443, San Francisco, CA 94103): Hardcore humorless anti-fascist and anti-sexist propagandizing. From my point of view, they overuse terms like "fascist" until they lose most of their meaning. On the other hand, there are lots of short news bits here, and the combined pattern of power and abuse in this country is a scary one. So read it, but think about what you read. (T-16t/MG)

**NOMOS** Vol. 7 #4 ($19/4 issues from 6666 Odana Rd. #314, Madison, WI 53719): This Libertarian periodical has shrunk a bit but is still holding on. The main thrust of this issue is a critique of compulsory education, but they still find room to chat about designer drugs and present a rewrite of Genesis. There's also a few words on the distortions the state introduces into the cost of running amok. (S-32t/MG)

□**NON** #1 ($1 (?) from 733 Fillmore #9, San Francisco, CA 94117): A new zine of essay and story, with hand-colored illustrations. There are thoughts about the stratification of power and childraising and just having fun or even having an identity. Made a bit hard to read by a too-arty layout which puts words on little slips of paper across artwork, but that also slows the mind to a more contemplative reading speed. (D-16/MG)

**NON COMPOS MENTIS II** (Send stamps to Scott K. Smith #74481, Arizona State Prison-Rincon, 10,000 S. Wilmot Rd., Tucson, AZ 85777): A small litmag put together behind bars—actually a pretty impressive achievement. Though some of these poems and drawings and stories do have prison themes, there is other material as well. Will Inman contributes a nice triplet of poems this time around. (M-40/MG)

**THE NOOK NEWS** Vol.6 #2 ($4 sample copy from 38114 Third St., Suite 181, Willoughby, OH 44094): A very valuable source for freelance writers, "regardless of genre." Stocked with hints, tips on good skills (writing and marketing) and listings of markets, although not complete. Small essays by freelancers include how to mentally write, writing with music, and what to do about the dreaded writer's block. (S-10t/CG)

**NORTHERN SUN NEWS** vol.13 #6 ($15 yr. from 1519 E. Franklin Ave., Mpls., MN 55404): Generally concerned with uncovering atrocities buried in the media, from mass murder in Mozambique to the Mohawk Nation siege. This issue had a preponderance of articles on nuclear waste non-disposal horrors. Terrifying stuff, presented in an urgent fashion. (T-11t/JR)

**NOTES FROM OBLIVION** Unfinished Words & Pictures #2 (3 stamps from Jay Harber, 626 Paddock Ln., Libertyville, IL 60048): A collection of Jay's apa writings, artwork, correspondence and other whatnot. It only peripherally touches on the health problems that are the subject of most of his stuff, concentrating instead on letters and discussion. (HL-12r/MG)

**NOTES FROM THE DUMP** Vol. 5 #80 ($20/yr from Terry Ward, PO Box 39, Acworth,m NH 03601): Ruminations and reminiscences from Terry, who works at the Dump when he's not thinking about past days of driving a cab or trying to figure out what the future will be like. Somewhat self-indulgent, rambling writing, and yet undeniably charming. A fine observer of the human condition. (S-6/MG)

□**NOTES FROM WINDWARD** Year 2 #7 ($2 from The Windward Foundation Press, PO Box 51, Klickitat, WA 98628): The newsletter of an intentional community out in Washington, featuring 100 tons of miscellaneous equipment, a lot of livestock, and 13 members (not all living on-site). The newsletter chronicles everything from new sheep to plans to run in electricity to the lower end of the property. 60 acres of oak woods and big plans for the future. (S-18t/MG)

□**NOVA** #14 ($4? from EDC, PO Box 515942, Dallas, TX 75251): Journal for the Japanimation fanatic. Info on how to trade tapes pirated from Japanese TV, and (mostly) art and stories/scripts relating to favorite characters. A pleasant byway of SF lovingly explored. (S-66t/JR)

**NOVA EXPRESS** Vol. 3 #2 ($3 from PO Box 27231, Austin, TX 78755-2231): A science fiction fanzine that wanders mostly around the edges of the field. This issue features two more interviews with Pat Murphy, a look at the fiction of Jonathan Carroll, and a batch of reviews. Of these the one that gets the most space is the salacious **ALIEN SEX** collection. Lots of jokes and some deep analysis here. (S-24t/MG)

**NU** #8-9 (15 fr. from Xavier Bouyges, 16 rue de la Pinsonniere, 77680 Roissy En Brie, FRANCE): More blotchy ink drawings and constructions from Xavier, who remains both prolific and inscrutable. The eighth issue seems to be subtitled **4444,7**, though I haven't any idea what that means. Harsh angular geometries of darkness. (A4-6/MG)

□**NUCLEAR INDUSTRY** Summer 1990 ($75/yr from Council for Energy Awareness, 1776 I St. NW #400, Washington, DC 20006): A slick puff-piece publicity magazine for the nuclear energy industry. This issue is all about how good nuclear power plants are for the environment, with lots of color photos of happy looking animals. Among other things they point out that since humans are kept away from the plants, the sea turtles can nest without being bothered. (S-48t/MG)

□**THE NUMBERS FACTSHEET** Vol. 1 #2 ($16/4 issues from Moonbeam Press, PO Box 149, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510): A zine about the mysterious "numbers" radio transmissions and sundry other topics—the US Army's spy-catching hotline gets a workout in this issue. There are reviews of books, notes on cryptography, and much about times and places that the numbers were heard. One of the great mysteries of modern radio life continues. (S-12t/MG)

**OBSCURE PUBLICATIONS AND VIDEO** #8-9 ($5/6 issues from Jim Romenesko, PO Box 1334, Milwaukee, WI 53201): This publication gets better all the time in their coverage of underground media. #8 spotlights the Church of Tina Chopp and its High priests—divulging some rituals of the Church and it's goals, including the expulsion of "Anti-Tinites," namely, those involved with the Cause of Disco. There are also some video release reviews, a piece on **SNICKER** zine's fiasco with Anheuser-Busch about copyright infringement and a look at Mog Decarnin's **RABBITEARS** zine. #9 has a talk with Paul Weinman about the White Boy, and some of G.G. Allin's childhood recollections. An essential for anyone who wants to know more about the zine world, and very fun. (S-10t/CG/MG)

**THE OBSERVATION WARD** #19 ($6/yr. from Donald Ward, Park Alhambra 56, 999 E. Valley Blvd., Alhambra, CA 91801-5205): Personal-zine from a decent friendly churchgoing man. He hopes diplomacy can sort things out in Iraq, describes a Chinese banquet he happily attended, and indulges in much homespun humor and commonsense wit. (S-2t/JR)

**ODD** #4 & 4.5 (The Usual from David R, Haugh, 556 N. 3rd St., Woodburn, OR 97071): Meriting its title #4 had thoughts on jogging, many cartoon illustrations, a *very* skillfully metered SF poem and thoughts on pens—the old dip models it seems remain the best. #4.5 had pics of aliens, Jimi Hendrix looming over the Taj Mahal, an more of the like, and included a skewed view of Greek mythology. (S-4/JR)

**THE ODINIST** #130-131 ($8/8 issues from PO Box 1647, Crystal River, FL 32623): A publication for those interested in going back to Northern European tribal roots. They publish lots of articles on history and philosophy aiming to demonstrate old ideals worth striving for. Their strong anti-Zionist stand and occasional favorable quoting of Hitler will, however, scare many folks away. (S-10/MG)

**OFF HOLLYWOOD REPORT** Vol. 5 #5 ($25/yr from The

**Here's What's in Obscure #9:**

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Independent Feature Project, 132 W. 21st St., 6th Fl., New York, NY 10011): A zine for the serious independent filmmaker. This issue looks at the dwindling world of B movies, gives some hints for dealing with projectionists and editing films, and mentions new hot prospects. There's a great short piece on overused plot ideas and plenty on marketing your film. (S-34t/MG)

**OFFICE NUMBER ONE** Vol. 65,888 #474($8.42/8 issues from Carlos B. Dingus, 1709 San Antonio St., Austin, TX 78701): Lots of fun from an alternative reality plane. The Dingus' (Dingi?) report on all sorts of extraneous topics, such as Satanic beings dressed as humans invading our culture, the AMA as a front for vampires, and, my personal favorite, the Victim Index—a comprehensive list of every imaginable victim of victimization today. Also check out the "Nyet Ching"—the Book of No Changes. Read it and think. (D-12/CG)

**OFFSHORE MEDICAL THERAPIES** #8 ($19/yr from PO Box 833, Farmingdale, NY 11737): A guide to anti-aging medicines and medical treatments that are not available in the USA, though I suspect if you tried hard enough you could get most of these things imported. They report on drugs like minaprine and KH3, citing plenty of technical literature to show that they actually do have positive results. Side effects are carefully discussed along with the good things. (S-8t/MG)

**OFF THE WALL** #15 (A "stamp or a useful item" from Kathe & John Burt, 960 SW Jefferson Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333): A collection of strange newspaper clippings that hang out on Kathe & John's wall before being preserved in photocopy. In #15, a jogger runs into a truck, Mississippi considers making it illegal to kill your servants, and a variety of deceptive and downright strange ads surface. (O-1/MG)

**OPEN REVOLT** #2 ($2 from TW #108, 225 Wyandotte St. E, Windsor, ONT, N9A 3H5, CANADA): An independent Third Way journal, pushing the ideas of a strong revolutionary non-communist movement with racial overtones. They talk about contacts with other sectors of the movement, and bashes on radicals and Trotskyites. There's a listing of other publications of like mind here as well. (S-12/MG)

**THE OPTIMISTIC PEZZIMIST** #6 ($3 from Mike Robertson, PO Box 606, Dripping Springs, TX 78620): A fanzine for the PEZ enthusiast—you know, those wonderful candy dispensers that have all but disappeared from supermarkets these days. Collectors of these items find themselves compatriots here, with news of auctions, collector's profiles and new markets. (D-36/CG)

**OREGON PAGAN COUNCIL NETWORK NEWSLETTER** Vol. 2 #2 ($1 from PO Box 1012, Oregon City, OR 97045): Ads, news and notes for the pagan community in Oregon. This issue they feature some authentic Lakota medicine teachings from the late 19th century. They've also got plenty of events and a growing letter column. (S-10t/MG)

**ORVOTRON** Sept./Oct.-Nov./Dec. 1990 ($30/yr from Route 2, Box 309 B, Vilas, NC 28692): "Greetings Asending Light Beings," begins this newsletter, and the message doesn't get less ecstatic or more clear at any point thereafter. There's a pretty elaborate cosmology behind these utterings, and the unprepared reader will have trouble figuring what the "Heavenly Octave Fifth Dimesional Ethereal" world that's now emerging is. One point does emerge with clarity: contributions will be appreciated. The November issue has much about a computer BBS they're setting up which will apparently keep people even more up to date. (D-15/JR/MG)

**THE OTHER ISRAEL** #43 ($30/6 issues from America-Israel Council for Israeli-Palestine Peace, 4816 Cornell Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515): Actually, this is published in Israel, then agented through Illinois. It's from the rather beleaguered peace movement in Israel, and as you might expect, most of this issue is devoted to war worries. They insist that now more than ever justice to the Palestinians has to be a negotiating issue. A view of the world we seldom get to glimpse. (S-12t/MG)

**OTHER REALMS** #28 ($2.85 from Chuq Von Rospach, 35111-F Newark Blvd. #255, Newark, CA 94560): A science fiction magazine which concentrates largely on reviewing books in the field—or at least more largely than most such zines. In this issue, Chuq reports on the expected feedback on his leaving the world of electronic publishing to concentrate on the paper edition, and provides a combination travelogue/convention report from his summer. (S-58t/MG)

□**OUT** #163 ($21/12 issues from 747 South Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15221): Gay and lesbian news and views for the Pittsburgh area. They have quite extensive news coverage, from the usual round of discrimination cases and health news to more heartening film festivals and social events. Lots of films in this issue, along with another view on outing. (T-40t/MG)

**OUT WEST** #12 ($2.50 from 10522 Brunswick Rd., Grass Valley, CA 95945): Don't visit Grass Valley hoping to find editor Chuck Woodbury there; he'll most likely be somewhere in his RV, seeking new stories for this traveling coverage of the American west. Join him visiting dinosaur parks, getting the lowdown on famous Western folks, eating at roadside diners, investigating chapel prices in Las Vegas, and more. An active readership and a flair for humorous writing makes this a good place to set a while. (T-40t/MG)

**THE OWL CREEK JOURNAL** Vol. 2 #1 [owl]($7/4 issues from Kenyon College, Gambier, OH 43022): A pagan journal that seems a bit diffuse and unfocused, perhaps because they're interested in so many things at once. There's a long piece here attacking Christianity, a couple of short stories, plenty of poetry, and thoughts about children and the environment. (HL-32t/MG)

**OXFIN QUARTERLY** #11 (£1 (?) from Unit 1, Paradise St. Business Centre, Oxford OX1, UK): An outpouring of counterculture and information, from a network of folks around the UK. Stonehenge festivals, climate changes, hemp, British law, animal liberation are a few of their concerns. Contains extensive news and events listings. (D-28r/MG)

**OZONE** Vol. 2 #12 (Contact Douglas Vaughan Cox, 1911 Andy Holt Ave., Knoxville, TN 37916): This amateur press association is working on being a writers' workshop in print, and doing a good job. Members contribute stories—as well as artwork and general chat—and then talk about them. #12 had a "Halloween" theme, with ideas ranging from the sublimely horrific to the just plain silly. Contact Douglas for more information on getting involved; an SASE would be nice. (S-100/MG)

□**PAGANA** #53 ($2 from PO Box 9336, San Jose, CA 95157): The zine of the Pagan/Occult/Witchcraft Special Interest Group of Mensa. It's heavier on book reviews and contacts than most pagan zines. There's also a chatty letter column, some ritual, and a warning about a possible crook trying to take advantage of the pagan community. (D-20t/MG)

**PAGAN APA** #52 (Contact Rita Prince Winston, 548-3 S. Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291-4182): An amateur press association for serious pagans. They discuss history and ritual, modern pagan life, relationships, being different, and a host of other topics. Many participants are pseudonymous, which doesn't seem to have prevented a warm family feeling from springing up here. (S-85/MG)

**PAGANS FOR PEACE** #46 ($15/13 issues from POB 86134, North Vancouver, BC, V7L 4J5, Canada): Pleasing mix of Neopaganism and leftist politics, this issue had a lengthy self-defence by the Wiccan Church of Canada, which seems to have suffered from bad press in this journal: the reprint of their *apologia* is ostensibly a mature act of community-building. Interesting letters here, epecially one from *Anichti Poli* on the difficulties of reviving Greek paganism—in Greece. Unusual and lively. (S-12r/JR)

**PAH** #36 (Stamps? from Mark Morelli, 702 Mae St., Kent OH 44240):Another excellent page of mirth from Mark Morelli, this one focussed on the gestalt of documentary viewing, with fanciful titles and summations. Entirely delightful. (S-1t/JR)

**PALLAS SOCIETY NEWS** vol.5 #2 ($9.50 yr. from POB 18211, Encino, CA 91316): Easily the best Paganzine since Harvest canned the Deathcrones. Thoughtful articles on Wicca vs. Witchcraft,& the historicity of the Tain (the Irish Epic); a good but far too short story installment called "Teen Pagans," and Rev, Beyerl on how to handle wax stains and incense-resin buildup. The "Better Homes and Gardnerians" of the enchanted ghetto. (HL-54t/JR)

□**THE PAM BUCK PICAYUNE** Vol. 1 #2 (50¢ from Peter Payne, 10849 Macouba Pl., San Diego, CA 92124): This one is pretty inscrutable. Pam Buck appears to be a person who provides voiceovers for translated Japanimation films. The newsletter is either a backhanded tribute or a vicious nasty joke—it's sort of hard to tell. In any case, it's not exactly oriented towards people who don't know those involved. (S-8t/MG)

**THE PAN-AMERICAN INDIAN ASSOCIATION NEWS** #30 ($5/5 issues from PO Box 244, Nocatee, FL 33864): A newspaper for those with any Native American heritage at all, even those who only feel like they must have some but can't yet prove it. They print news about members, notes on Native traditions, and penpal and other ads. A very eclectic meeting place. (T-16t/MG)

**PANICOS** #2 ($2.50 from Steve Fentone, PO Box 742, Stn. Q, Toronto, ONT, M4T 2N5, CANADA): A movie zine with a specialized point of view: it's dedicated entirely to "Mexploitation", low-budget flicks from mexico. This issue has filmographies for Rene Cardona and Federico Curiel, plus zillions of reviews of everything from wrestling to SF movies and plenty of publicity stills. (D-72r/MG)

**THE PAPER BAG** Fall 1990 ($2.50 from M. Brownstein, PO Box 268805, Chicago, IL 60626-8805): A zine of mostly citified poetry and short stories. There's a bitter old man disposing of his disrespectful children, a woman in terror but armed with a large gun, divorce, wifebeatings. All in all not a nice view of the world, though a few sunbeams penetrate the clouds. (D-32/MG)

**PAPER TOADSTOOL** #3 (50¢ *in stamps* from Growing Productions, 4946 West Point Way, W.V.C., Utah 84120): Small friendly litmag with some of the best comic/art work in any small press publication, mostly by 1/3 of the editorial collective, Duncan H. Some short vignettes, a few poems by contributors, but it's the general feeling of zest and the great art that carries the weight. (D-20/CG)

**PARADISE 2000** Vol.1 #2 (SASE and 25¢ stamp from Christopher B. Martin, Rt. 1 Box 373, Charlottesville, VA 22901-9605): The latest installment of Martin's commitment to working towards a radically improved planet by 2000. Influenced by Robert Fritz's **THE PATH OF LEAST RESISTANCE**, Martin is accomplishing this gradually: with the addition of his own IBM-compatible, the advancement of Fritz's theories and a series of networking events. He's serious about this and so should we be. (S-1/CG)

□**PASSPORT** #26 ($3.25 from International Wavelength Inc., 2215-R Market St. # 236, San Francisco, CA 94114): Travel zine for the orientalising gay wanderer. Articles on new legal menaces in Thailand and China, a book review of a fascinating volume on male gayness in Thailand, humorous Bangkok & Phillipine daily-life articles & of course, personals ads. Outstanding. (D-30t/JR)

□**PAST DEADLINE** Vol.1 #1 ($1 plus 35¢ in stamps from Robert Hudson, 19 Glen Ave., Troy, NY 12180): From his job as Local History Librarian, Robert has access to old newspapers and here has culled from them some fascinating articles from the past—say around 150 years ago or so. Each issue will have a theme, this one being the elusive sea serpent who was sighted in and around the New England Coast circa 1818. Other bits include an 1851 editorial assessment of women's fashion which reflects a more, er, restriced era. (HL-16r/CG)

**THE PATRIOT REVIEW** Vol. V #4 ($20/yr from Christian Patriot Association, PO Box 905, Sandy, OR 97055): A right-wing journal of opposition to the government, primarily in the form of hatred for the IRS. Their main activity seems to be popularizing ever more convoluted ideas on legal ways to avoid the income tax. With this issue they start unearthing a Jewish conspiracy to embroil us in Mideast wars as well. (T-16t/MG)

**PEACE AND FREEDOM** Vol.6 #4-5 (#1 from Paul Rance, 17 Farrow Road, Whaplode Drove, Spalding, S. Lincs., PE12 0TS, England): A litmag crammed with various poetry, it's also a music zine and a socially conscious animal rights mag. P & F is an organization trying to to help "the oppressed human beings and creatures on this planet," enlisting help from the likes of Brigitte Bardot. Stories have a peace-loving feel to them, while poetry ranges from simple to angry. Short bios are given for each contributor, plus discographies, music reviews and occasional interviews. (D-22r/CG)

**THE PEACEMAKER** Vol. 43 #3 ($10/yr suggested donation from PO Box 627, Garberville, CA 95440): A tabloid of resistance to war and government, from people who put their lives, freedom, and livelihood on the line. This issue reports on several attempts to stop the prospect of war in the Mideast, including a fast and a proposal for citizen diplomacy. There's lots else here as well, with many inspirational (and sometimes scary) accounts. (T-8t/MG)

**PEACEWORK** #200-201 ($1 from American Friends Service Committee, 2161 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140): A journal of peace and social justice for the rational human being. These people are celebrating their 200th issue and are calling for something just a bit more pungent than liberalism to really activate. There's some sane commentary on the Mid-East crisis, an update of the debris in Panama leftover by Uncle Sam, and the post-cold-war nuclear threat all in #200. #201 has more facts on the Persian Gulf and the latest on the drive for a Peace Tax Fund. (S-16t/CG/MG)

**PELTEX** #8 Lettre E ($5 from 3, Ru des Couples, 67000 Strasbourg, FRANCE): A collection of art from a whole bunch of mail artists, reproduced in a mini as "outsiders" ("elles sont le sortie") in the Peltex series of lettered editions. There's everything from bizarre pornography to science fiction-like critters wondering around in dazed confusion. A cross section through the network. (M-40/MG)

**PENGUIN DIP** #38-39 ($15/10 issues from Stephen H. Dorneman, 94 Eastern Ave. #1, Malden, MA 02148): A combination postal diplomacy, roleplaying game and science fiction zine—a marriage with at least some friction, but fun nonetheless. Besides refereeing various Diplomacy games, Stephen talks about Souter's nomination hearings, publishes reviews and notes on RPG playtesting in #38, and invites letters from folks on sundry subjects. (S-18t/MG)

**PENT-UP OBSERVATIONS** Vol. 2 #2 (Donation from Pent-Up Press, PO Box 3490, University Sta., Tucson, AZ 85722): This journal is edited by Mike Furry and Avi Naftel, who are inmates of the Arizona State Prison system. They publish prison stuff, but a wide variety of other socially conscious material as well, from Earnest Mann's writings on the Priceless Economy to the ideas of Johnny Potseed. Good-humored despite their circumstances, these guys have got an interesting and deserving zine going here. (S-26/MG)

**THE PENUMBRA** (1 stamp (no SASE) from Porcine Software, PO Box 20625, New York, NY 10009-8961): A rag from the Lower East Side which delights in agitating police, its arch-enemy **THE SHADOW**, and many other modern day casualties. Thinly-veiled antagonisms and humor prevail over such topics as buying books on Wall St., more police problems and how to solve them, and the demise of a "so-called" bookstore, whom they also dislike. I suspect you have to be there to get most of it. (O-12t/CG)

□**PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE** Fall 1990 ($20/yr from PO Box 3524, Chicago, IL 60654): A special issue with an analysis of the growth of censorship from the point of view of the Communist Labor Party. Their basic thesis is that there's a revolution going on, and this needs to be hushed up. Personally, I don't buy this line of argument as sufficient to explain folks from Wildmon to book printers who really seem to find their morals threatened by free speech. (T-4t/MG)

**PEPTALK** Vol. 7 #3 ($10/4 issues from PEP, PO Box 6306, Captain Cook, HI 96704-6306): A support and brainstorming zine for the idea of polyfidelity—the idea of a multiple but closed relationship as a new kind of family. This issue reports on the enthusiastic crowd at the annual PEPcon, on a possible change in ACLU policy to support such relationships, and so on. Earnest proponents for a new point of view. (S-10t/MG)

□**PERELANDRA** #81 ($1.50 from Pete Gaughan, 1521 S. Novato Blvd. #46, Novato, CA 94947-4147): A zine of games and classic literature—Jack London being prominent in this issue. Pete is running a whole batch of games, from straight Diplomacy to a Lord of the Rings variant to some railroading game to a round of Fictionary. Looks like a lot of fun to get involved with. (S-18t/MG)

**PERIPHERAL VISIONS** #4 (The Usual from Rob Sommers, 926-C Waverly Way NE, Atlanta, GA 30307-2551): A SF zine newly relocated with some gonzo fans in the Atlanta area, and who knows what will happen next. It is rather fiction oriented, with a short story and a "finish this story" contest both in this issue. Dale Speirs says some pointed things about the uselessness of literacy and Anya Martin explores the connections between SF and rock and roll. (S-16t/MG)

☐**PIERS ANTHONY PERSONAL NEWSLETTER** Vol. 1 #1 ($7.50/4 issues from Valet Publishing Company, PO Box 1568, Clayton, GA 30525): A new newsletter dedicated to promoting Piers Anthony and shamelessly hawking his books and other merchandise. Yes, this SF author is moving into merchandising heavy-duty, but also expects to print novel excerpts and who knows what else here. (S-4t/MG)

☐**THE PIG'S FORM** #1 (SASE from RS Preuss, 299 Nelson #2, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866): A mildly amusing number from an Inside Joke alum, with sportive news items, some of "the worst jokes ever heard," and a sendup of Howl beginning: "i saw the best-coiffed heads of my generation become whiny little pricks who bought Volvos & attended property management seminars..." (HL-8r/JR)

☐**THE PILEDRIVER** #32 (75¢ from J.D. Woodall, 1707 Alabama, Big Spring, TX 79720): A wrestling fanzine from a state where wrestling really doesn't get that much live action. Thus the annual NWA stop in Lubbock is the big news in this issue, with notes and descriptions from all the matches. There are also match reports from Florida and Arizona, notes on other zines, and some opinion pieces. (S-7/MG)

**PISS ELEGANT** #2 ($2 *CASH* from PO Box 191781, San Francisco, CA 94119-1781): A flamboyant large-page looseleaf gayzine, featuring big photos and strange words. The latter are part of the serialized story "Girlfriend In a Coma", a whirlwind tour through some of the underbelly of the gay social scene. (O-4t/MG)

**THE PLAIN TRUTH** Nov/Dec '90 (On request from PO Box 111, Pasadena, CA 91123): House organ of the Worldwide Church of God, this issue suggests that natural disasters teach wayward humanity a lesson, video games are bad for children, and Christmas is a pagan imposture. Pretty mainstream overall and very slick. (S-28/JR)

☐**A PLEA FOR SANITY** #1 ($1.50 from 5503 Boxhill Ln., Baltimore, MD 21210): A new zine of animal rights and music. The overlap is pretty strong, since much of the first issue consists of invited essays from band members who are into veganism and so on. There's a list of organizations, ideas on what you can do to stop exploiting animals, and a few music reviews as well. (D-44/MG)

☐**POE** Vol. 1 #5 ($1 from Greens, 2232 Sunset Cliffs Blvd., San Diego, CA 92107): This one comes from the Green Party folks down around San Diego, California. They are mostly into local politics with this issue, since it came out before the elections. There's also an article on the health risks of pesticides, to farm workers and the rest of us. (S-8/MG)

**POINTS OF LIGHT** Vol. III #7-9 (SASE from Temple of the Eternal Light, 928 E. Fifth St., Brooklyn, NY 11230-2104): A single-sheeter for the urban pagan. They run it somewhat as an open forum, with #7 containing notes on the equinox, a strange bit of spiritual lumberjackery, and a small zen story. #8 discusses the origin and significance of Samhain. (L-2/MG)

**POLITICAL ECONOMY** #59 (SASE (?) from PO Box 9, Forestville, CA 95436): A broadsheet of political thought. This issue considers anarchy and the problems in bringing it about in today's world. The author sees fascism as the main opposition, defined broadly enough to encompass George Bush as a fascist. (S-1/MG)

**POPULAR LIFE** Fall 1990 ($6/4 issues from Mary Arp, 105 Belmont St., Rochester, NY 14620): Mail art and other weirdness. There's a crazy catalog-excerpt centerfold, an article on the sorts of things department-store Santas wear, and the winner of their mail art envelope contest. A light touch look at modern culture. (D-20t/MG)

**PORTA-PLAY** #1 ($1 from Scott Boehmer, 118 Surrey Lane, Lake Forest, IL 60045): A newsletter for the new video grame craze of the nineties: portable video games, a market which Atari, Nintendo and other are hard at work on. The issue starts with a bunch of rumors of fantastic coming hardware. There are also reviews of some games already available for systems like the Game Boy. (S-8/MG)

**THE POSITIVE TIMES** Vol.290 ($3 from Jerry Posner, Box 244, West Stockbridge, MA 01266-0244): Okay, get past the Smiley Face inanity and read this, if you ever need a positive glance at things. Editor Posner has taken the mainstream hype out of "Don't Worry, Be Happy" and given it some logical proportions. A disclaimer reads to all cynics: This ain't for you. Get lost! but to cover all bases he's included a "Negative Times supplement. Clever and feel-good reading. (S-15/CG)

✓ ☐**POSTCARD COLLECTOR** #27-33 ($5/5 issues from Ann Rusnak, PO Box 4177, Carson City, NV 89702): A zine for the collector of postcards, of course. Ann seems to be networking a whole lot of people together, printing contact addresses for fellow hobbyists. She also discusses (and sometimes reprints) new and unusual finds in the field. Friendly. (S-4r/MG)

☐**POSTFLUXPOSTBOOKLET** #10 (IRCs from Luce Fierens, Boterstraat 43, 2811 Hombeek, BELGIUM): A collaborative collage effort between Luce and Soviet mail artist Serge Segay. It's subtitled "A Hat Number", and hats do indeed play a major part here, sometimes in detailed drawings, sometimes merely hat-shaped cutouts. A mishmash of consumerism and texts that make no surface sense. (M-20/MG)

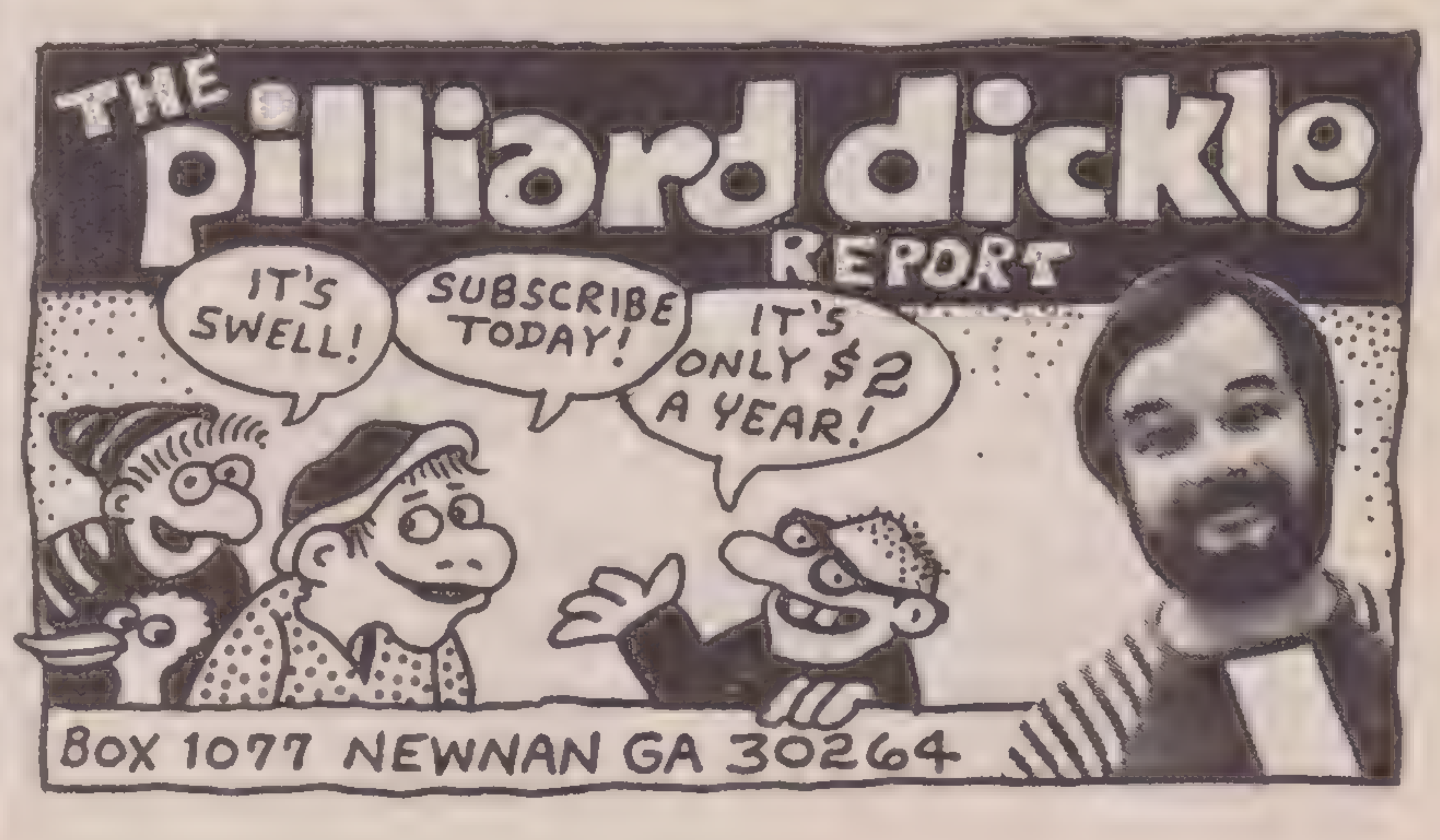
**THE PRAGMATIST VOL 8 #2** ($10/YR FROM PO Box 392, Forest Grove, PA 18922): This basically libertarian journal has the usual arresting types of proposition for which these scary logicians are famous: to solve the Gulf Crisis Hussein should be taken out by an independent assassin. Feasibility, not government pressure will see synthfuels into general use. Not new taxes but no central government will deal with the deficit. Very lucid expression of unduly certain views. (S-16t/JR)

**THE PRAIRIE RAMBLER** #157-158 ($1.23 from PO Box 505, Claremont, CA 91711-0505): Quips and quotes from across history, together with some commentary from editor Jerry B. Everyone from Mencken to ancient Japanese proverbs get into the act. #158 has delicious nastiness from Calvin Trilling and Gore Vidal, as well as continued delightful commentary. (S-8/MG)

**PRESENT TIME** #81 ($10/yr from Rational Island Publishers, 719 Second Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98109): This is the essential journal of Re-Evaluation Counseling, "a process whereby people of all ages and all backgrounds can learn how to exchange effective help with each other in order to free themselves from the effects of past distress experiences". Besides being involved in various forms of RC practice, these people are into building community and working for a better world. Certainly seems to have appealed to a lot of people. (S-120t/MG)

**THE PRESIDENT JOURNAL** #4 ($3 from Chris Laursen, c/o President Productions, General Delivery, Tofield, AB, T0B 4J0, CANADA): A shotgun scatterblast of literary and review material. There are articles on E.C. Comics and mail art, maxims from B.Z. Niditch and essays from David Castleman, and lots more. Comics, poetry, letters and even a trivia quiz spill across the pages. (D-36r/MG)

**PRISONERS' LEGAL NEWS** Vol. 1 #6-7 (Donation from PO Box 1684, Lake Worth, FL 33460): Put together by a couple of inmates in the Washington state prison system, this is a mix of hopes for the future and worries about the present. They look at particular cases that might aid jailhouse lawyers, consider the possibility of recovering civil rights, and generally try to find ways to make society less prison-happy. (S-10/MG)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**PRISON NEWS SERVICE** #26 (Donation from Bulldozer, POB 5052, Stn. A, Toronto, Ont., Canada M5W 1W4): Focused on violations of prisoners' rights: censorship, isolation for HIV status, and related issues such as new drug laws that make prison possible for all, &c. Also coverage of the Canadian-Mohawk struggle. Provocative left journalism which undermines its own credibility with an abusive style. (T-12t/JR)

**PROGRESSIVE PRAGMATIST** Vol. V #3 ($12/yr from Nicholas J. Nigro, JR., 3214 Tibbett Ave., Bronx, NY 10463): Level-headed political commentary that sometimes gets pretty sly when talking about other political folks. This time they look at the issue of Mayor Dinkins' wardrobe, investigate the "Repugnant 5" from the recent elections, and have a lot more fun. Teddy Roosevelt still wears place of honor in this one. (S-12/MG)

**THE PROJECT** Vol. VII #1-3 ($3 (?) from A-Albionic Consulting, PO Box 20273, Ferndale, MI 48220): Conspiracy theory is grand fun; spend enough time with obscure sources and you can get a glimpse of the people running the world. According to the folks here, "The Overt and Covert Organs of the Vatican and British Empires are Locked in Mortal Combat for Control of the World." Evidence flies thick and fast, alliances change with dizzying speed, and the entire structure grows ever more complex. (S-6r/MG)

☐**THE PROTESTANT** Nov.-Dec. 1990 ($1 (?) from Concerned Citizens for South Lake, PO Box 120202, Clermont, FL 34712): What these citizens are concerned about is uncontrolled growth, and its associated problems from traffic to garbage incineration. There's am ix of letters to the editor, humor, facts and passionate opposition here. What I can't seem to extract is any idea of alternatives. (S-16/MG)

**PROTOCULTURE ADDICTS** #8 ($2.50 from 33, Rue Prince #243, Montreal, Qc., Canada, H3C 2M7): A very insidery zine for Japanimation fans, relating to the Robotech movie, TV series, comic, roleplaying game, & heaven knows what else. Robotech is huge spikey shining robots with vast bulging metal muscles (usually flatcrotched) and really cute big-eyed fluffy-haired girls with outerspace swimsuits that more express than conceal their gorgeous gams. Explicable in light of the strict anti-porn laws in Japan. Stories, articles, info and some pics. (S-34t/JR)

**PRO WRESTLING SUSHI** #27 ($1.50 from Jeff Mullins, PO Box 36189, San Jose, CA 95158): If you want the latest news from the wrestling circuit...turn somewhere else, at least until you *really* know what's going on. *Then* come back to SUSHI for a few belly-laughs, as their delightfully irreverent "news" makes fun of everyone. There are some wild imaginations here, along with ringside pranks and stabs at other, more serious wrestling bulletins. (S-10r/MG)

**PRO WRESTLING TORCH WEEKLY** #88-92 ($5/4 issues from Wade Keller, PO Box 201844, Minneapolis, MN 55420): A wrestling newsletter which features front-page photos (color snapshot included) and plenty of results. There's also serious discussion, as with the column in #88 on whether wrestling and politics mix. #92 features an interview with Cactus Jack, a rather different sort of wrestler. (S-6r/MG)

**PSRU NEWSLETTER** #10 (Donation from Box PSRU, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA 01002): Acronym stands for People for a Socially Responsible University, a group of students dedicated to educational and political ideals—including university divestment of funds in more "correct" areas (i.e. not South Africa); speaking out and standing up for issues and organizing strength and intelligence. Also listed are factsheets denoting defense department contractors, both profit and non-profit. (S-8t/CG)

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**PSYCHOTRONIC** #7 ($5 from Michael J. Weldon, 151 First Ave., Dept. PV, New York, NY 10003): A wide-ranging guide to weird movies and associated lore. This issue includes a great letter from David Carradine responding to a previous feature on his life and work, a new feature on Peter Fonda, lots and lots of reviews, an extensive fanzine review section, and a guide to recently dead psychotronic people. Weldon obviously loves strange movies, and it rubs off. (S-64t/MG)

**PSYCHO VIDEO** #5 ($1 from PO Box 7333, Federal Way, WA 98003): Wall-to-wall reviews (mostly movies, with a few zines), and editorial and some letters make up this festival of B movies. There's a decided tone of violence against buxom women in their choice of illustrations here, and the screen gems include *Luther the Geek* and *Nazi Love Camp No. 27* as well as more familiar fare like *Texas Chainsaw Massacre III.* (S-20/MG)

**PUN AMERICAN NEWSLETTER** #3 ($9.95/6 issues from 1165 Elmwood Place, Deerfield, IL 60015): A short interlude and nice diversion, these four pages are jokes of wordplays and puns. "'I'm just an amoeba,' he said divisively" and "I left my harp in sampan, Cisco" are just a couple of examples from these punning jesters whose favorite movie is "The Puns of Navarrone." (S-4t/CG)

**PUNK PALS** #10-11 (2 stamps from Robert Brown, 2331 Blake St. #204, Berkeley, CA 94704): A free pen-pal listing service for those into punk music—that is, your listing is free. Just send in your name, address, list of favorite bands and a comment. Robert also prints the addresses of other zines that do free penpal stuff, and this list itself is growing fast; a real grassroots resource for the letter writing punk. (D-16r/MG)

**PWALIVE** Vol.3 #4 ($5 donation from PO Box 10034, Minneapolis, MN 55458-3034): A resource and support periodical by, for, and about persons affected by AIDS. Many contributors share experiences and thoughts, much of it is spiritual in content. The centerfold is devoted to the memory of Keith Gann, their editor who died last spring, with letter from friends and family. Resources and helplines are also given for those in the Minneapolis area. (S-19t/CG)

**QT'S ENTERTAINER** #19 ($2 from 670 Providence St., Woonsocket, RI 02895): A zine of fan clubs and other hobbies. This time Johnny Mathis gets pride of place on the cover and a couple of articles inside. There are addresses and profiles of other fan clubs, mail order ads, and even the odd bit of chatty news. Editor Connie Willis explains in this issue why she does it. (S-22/MG)

**RADIO VOID** #11 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 5983, Providence, RI 02903): Another fine collection of short fiction and shorter poems from the Providence scene. Miriam Sagan tells some open-ended stories here, while Oberc provides gritty poems. Illustrators include Matt Towler and Kurt Beaulieu. Other notable writers: Cheryl Townsend, Amy Peterson Richard Wilmarth, Walt Phillips...they've got a good forum here. (S-65t/MG)

**RAG** #2 ($2 from Michael Puttonen, 715 Huntley St., Dallas, TX 75214): A tight litmag that goes for the throat at every opportunity. Steve Leach delivers rising tension in "Breakfast With Gene", while Michael Colyer sends out chills through his "Just One Beer". Poetry and artwork scatter about as well. (D-40t/MG)

☐**THE RAG!** Vol. 1 #1 ($1 (?) from Donald F. Busky, 7393 Rugby St., Philadelphia, PA 19138): "The News you Can Use—And Wipe Yourself With", this one is notable mainly because it's typed on a piece of red cloth. The articles are appropriately red too—one calling for the US to get out of the Persian gulf, another demanding national health insurance. (D-1/MG)

**RAMPIKE** 10th Anniv. issue ($7 from 95 Rivercrest Road, Toronto, Ont.,CA M6S 4HS): A very slick and imposing litzine none of whose contents did a thing for me. Their hallmark is a stylishness, a surface elegance & cool which, like the Burroughs shot-gun painting on the cover, I find a bit ridiculous and entirely vapid. (O-80t/JR)

**THE RATIONAL ENQUIRER** Vol. XI #10 ($1 & SASE from Q&A SIG, 8206 Monaegan Ct., Severn, MA 21144): This comes from the Q&A Special Interest Group of Mansa, people applying the Mensa group mind to answering all manner of questions. One topic under current consideration is "What is the origin of the half-moon symbol on outhouses?" Another is "Anyone know of an all-inclusive encyclopedia of sesquipedalians?" (D-16r/MG)

**THE RAVEN** #9 ($3 from PO Box 295, Schertz, TX 78154): The reason for the jacked-up cover price this time is the inclusion of a tape from the Cat-Shit-Eating Dogs. Unfortunately, though the group has some talent in a garage blowoff way, the sound quality is abysmal. They also get interviewed in the written part, along with Sockeye, in amongst the art and short stories and zine reviews. Multi-media low-budget underground stuff. (D-24r & T/MG)

**THE RAVEN** #11 ($6.50 from A Distribution, 339 Lafayette St. #202, New York, NY 10012): An anarchist journal published in Britain which inclines towards the theoretical side of things; the closest US equivalent is probably **SOCIAL ANARCHISM**. This issue is devoted mainly to a discussion of class and whether class analysis is useful in anarchist thought. My own feelings may be discerned by knowing that I most appreciated the reprint of Camillo Berneri's "Worker Worship". (D-94t/MG)

**REAPER'S HARVEST** #2 ($3 from PO Box 18172, Philadelphia, PA 19116): A zine of horror of various sorts, from a review of *Frankenhooker* to an article on censorship to some pretty grody fiction. Take, for example, David Kramer's "Rebs", a story of fear and loathing on the battlefield, or the charming and sanguinary fairy tale "The Blueberry Elf". Audio reviews also included. (S-28t/MG)

**RECOVERY TODAY** Vol.1, #6-8 ($1? from PO Box 754, Goldenrod, FL 32733): Twelve-step promo paper with articles on the "anonymous" approach to everything from gambling to sex. Preaching by the choir, to the choir. No particular news as the 12'ers' programs are devoted to a single static condition of drug-dread and humility, without development beyond their often strenuously maintained sobriety. Kind of sad. #8 opens with an article on a 12-step program for pilots, certainly a newsworthy topic. (T-28t/JR).

**RELIGION WATCH** Vol. 5 #11-Vol. 6 #1 ($17.50/yr from PO Box 652, North Bellmore, NY 11710): A monthly newsletter about religion in the modern world, drawing on a host of other newsletters and journals for info. Among the topics in #11 are the rise of church computer networks, the effect of evangelicals on Latin American politics, and the success of the Jehovah's Witnesses in Japan. (S-8/MG)

**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ALERT** VOL.6 #7 ($15 YR. from Coalition for Religious Freedom, 5400 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA 22304): A very well written and engaging survey of threats (mostly legal) to religious freedom. In this issue: a suit against the NEA for feeding government money to "anti-religious art," the right of students to distribute religious lit. in school, and taking children to faith healers. Easily as much fun as *LA Law*, and far more educational. (S-15t/JR)

**THE RELUCTANT FAMULUS** #13 ($1.50 *CASH* or The Usual from Thomas D. Sadler, 422 W. Maple, Adrian, MI 49221): The SF zine has just reached its second anniversary (congratulations!) and is going stronger than ever. Besides a letter column which has attracted some of the best writers in fandom, Sadler has thoughts on rumors in the cyberage, book and movie reviews, and convention reportage. Light and fun. (S-26t/MG)

**REQUIEM SHARK** #12,16-17 ($1 or Trade from PO Box 2126, Knoxville, TN 37901): Three distinctive micro-minis with absolutely nothing in common but a poignant eye for the absurd and sometimes sad. #12 is the lightest, with "My Penpal Dan" (Quayle, that is), the sort of mail he sends out via proxy to his admirers. #16 is a short journal entried type list of events in the author's life—including plane flights, family tragedies, art shows and books by AIDS victims. #17 is a visual—"Watery Grave"—about a diver without a purpose. Sad but true, all of these are part of it. (MM-6r/CG)

**RESEARCHER** Vol. 3 #7 ($30/12 issues from Wiswell Ruffin, PO Box 117, Fredericksburg, OH 44627): White separatist grabage that doesn't bother to try and whitewash or downplay its hatred of Blacks, Jews, Puerto Ricans, or just about anyone else who isn't a reactionary WASP. They come down on rap music, suggest that atheism and feminism are both controlled by the Jews, and generally don't seem to believe that anyone outside of their own circle of readers is actually a human being. (S-8t/MG)

**RESONANCE** #18 ($3.50 from Judy Wall, PO Box 64, Sumterville, FL 33585): The newsletter of Mensa's Bioelectromagnetics Special Interest Group, folks concerned with the interactions of electric and magnetic fields with living tissue. This issue is one longish paper by Alfred Wolf, laying out the basics of electromagnetic theory. (D-32t/MG)

**REVELATION TIME** #2 (On Request from Jacob Rabinowitz, 1588 5th St., Rensselaer, NY 12144): A preview of Jacob's retranslation of the Book of Psalms—or, as it becomes in his rendering, "The Worshipful Bawling Yipees, Piping Yowls of Wow, and General Godward Joy-Noise". With illustration by Aethelred, this is a modern rendering, in common language, including the 23rd and 137th psalms in this preview. (M-16t/MG)

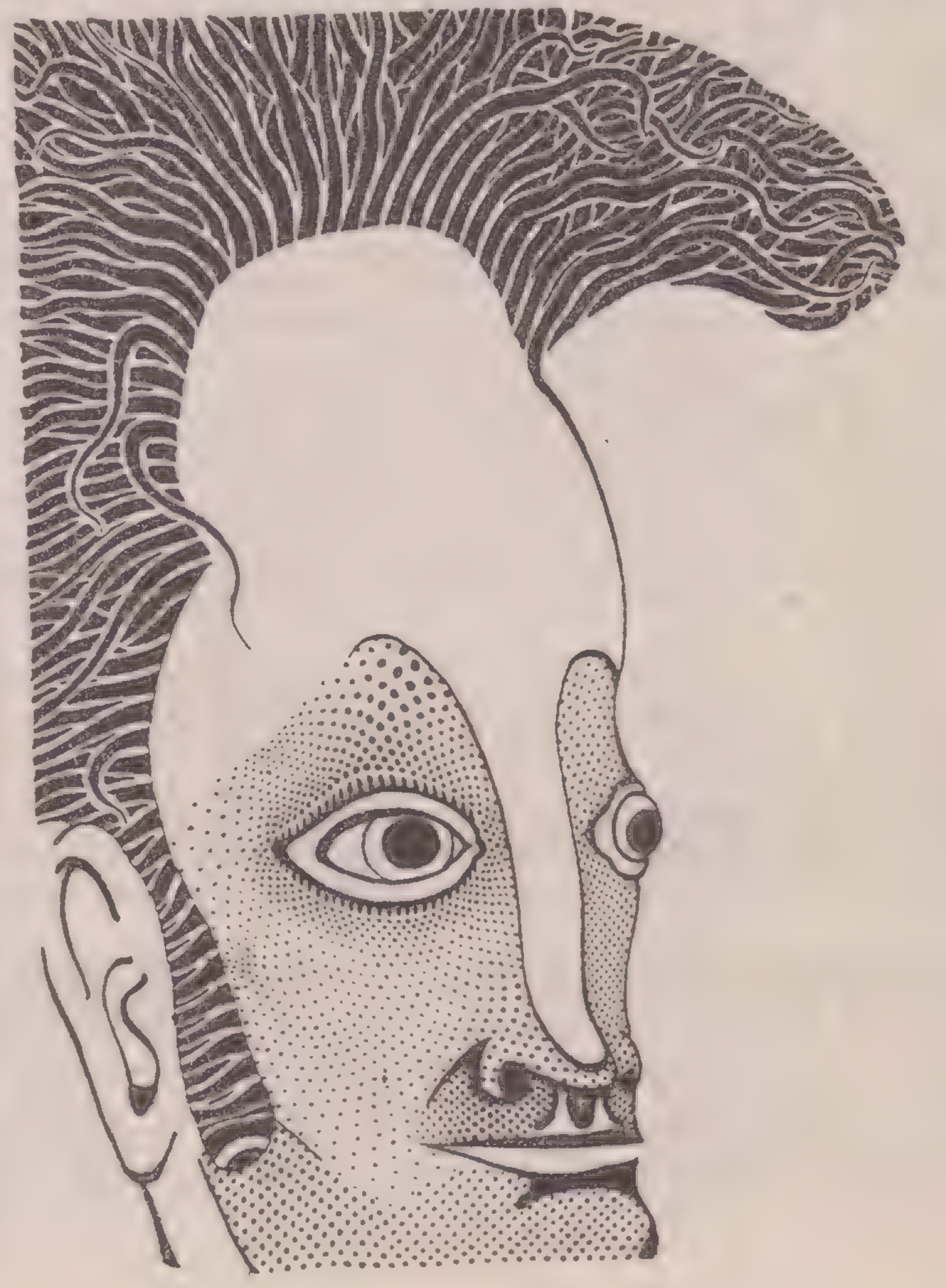
**REVIEWS UNLIMITED** #6 ($1.50 from Rikki Leeson, PO Box 581, Seattle, WA 98111): A zine of mostly comics reviews, but with a few other strange or marginal zines thrown in. Rikki elaborately handprints all the reviews, giving this a unique and careful look. Also reviews are in quite a bit of depth, and include excerpted art. Worth a look. (HS-24/MG)

**ROLLER SPORTS REPORT** #9-11 ($10/6 issues from Fred Argoff, 1800 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11223): A zine for fans of Roller Derby and other banked-track sports (the name itself belongs to one particular promotion). Fred is interested in the entire history of the sport, reprinting articles from the 1950s as well as new coverage. There seems to be a lull in live action right now, but the videotape traders have gotten into the act. (D-16/MG)

**ROUGH DRAFT** #49-50 ($10/yr from PO Box 6392, San Francisco, CA 94101): This is more a calendar than a zine. It chronicles the doings of the Cacophony Society, a group as likely to unroll bubble-pack on Castro Street as to have a film festival or a tour of the sewers. Recently they succeeded in taking a drive down the otherwise-closed Embarcadeo freeway. (L-2t/MG)

**THE RUNNING DINOSAUR** #8 ($1 (?) from Ralph E. Vaughan, 353 Oxford St., Chula Vista, CA 92011): A small litmag rooted in the sf and horror wing of things, with special attention to fantastic poetry. This issue has quotes from panels at the '90 NASFic, plus reviews of some other small press publications and announcements of the Press's forthcoming plans. (S-6/MG)

**RURAL MISSOURI** Oct.-Nov. 90 ($3.50/yr from 2722 E. McCarty, Jefferson City, MO 65101): This is the official publication of the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives, and as such, looks at rural life through the eyes of the cooperative extension. Besides



news of REC's, there are articles in October looking at an ethics bill in the state government, rural renewal, and a discourse on racing homing pigeons. November includes quilt preservation and lead mining. (T-20t/CG/MG)

**RURAL NETWORK ADVOCATE** #81-82 ($10/yr from Lois Fields, 6236 Borden Rd., Boscobel, WI 53805): That's the subscription price; singles may join for $30 and participate in exchanges with other Network members, since the prime function here is to put country-oriented singles in touch with one another. Lots of notes here about ways to live in the country, hopes and dreams, small town America and the joys of living there. (S-8/MG)

**RURAL SOUTHERN VOICE FOR PEACE** #52-53 ($25/yr from RSVP-FOR, 1901 Hannah branch Road, Burnsville, NC 28714): A newsletter of social action and peacemaking. #52 ranges across a bunch of issues: opposing nuclear weapons manufacture, petitioning Congress for a peace tax bill, and encouraging recycling among them. There are lots of little leads on inspirational efforts being pursued by various groups. (S-16t/MG)

**RV** Summer 1990 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 921, Cambridge, MA 02140): An oversized slick zine of facetious cultural commentary with lots of photography and artsy ads. Boston's answer to "Interview." This was the nostalgia issue, with retrospectives on politics and fashion, including an unexciting interview with John Waters' star Mink Stole. (O-32t/JR)

**RV** Autumn 1990 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 921, Cambridge, MA 02140): Despite the opinion of my esteemed co-editor, I rather like this promo zine of culture and what-not. The Autumn issue was devoted to film, featuring interviews with Lydia Lunch and Lloyd Kaufman from Troma Films. Lauren Leja does a lovely nostalgic look at teen movies from the Fifties to the present. Sometimes the vintage clothing store ads are a bit much, though. (O-40t/MG)

**THE SACRED RECORD** Aug. 1990 ($2 from Peyote Way Church of God, Star Rt. #1 Box 7X, Willcox, AZ 85643): A newsletter from people who see peyote as a sacrament. Much of this issue is concerned with the recent Supreme Court decision severely limiting religious freedom in this area, and a possible legislative solution. (S-14/MG)

**THE SACRED WILDERNESS** #8 (SASE from Ann Patterson, PO Box 15266, Santa Rosa, CA 95402): A journal of spirituality with feminist and pagan overtones. Ann reprints material on things like meaning and goals in life, change, and Gandhi's version of the seven deadly sins. Thought-provoking stuff. (S-4/MG)

□**A SAFARI INTO BILL'S MYSTERIOUS BODY** #1 (50¢ (?) from Bill Brown, Adams G-44, Harvard University, Canmbridge, MA 02138): A small mini of collage, mainly centered around world events (though the flying sheep is a nice touch). It folds out into a single sheet, a vast conglomeration of people clipped from the newspapers interacting in unexpected ways. (M-8/MG)

□**SALAD** #1 ($6 from PO Box 64980-306, Dallas, TX 75206): A new litmag which pushes the envelope pretty hard and falls down on some particulars; the design seems innovative but vaguely clunky, with the screened kitsch art making some pages hard to read. On the other hand, some of the weird stories here are well done, including Nathan Nichols' tale of interstellar mayhem in a Western diner and the curious saga of the man who tried to marry a monkey. (D-80t/MG)

**SALON** #11 ($5 from 305 W. Magnolia #386, Ft. Collins, CO 80521): This time around the Journal of Aesthetics is all about free speech and censorship—they're in favor of the former and against the latter. From Lenny Bruce to 2 Live Crew (with a few other excursions into earlier history) they present news and opinion. Contains quotes and excerpts from a lot of small press publications. Each issue is signed and numbered by a selection of the contributors. (S-70/MG)

**SAMHAIN** #23 ($4 from 19 Elm Grove Road, Topsham, Exeter, Devon, EX3 0EQ, ENGLAND): A slick and photo-laden British zine with horror movies as the main focus but branching out to some other strange cinema and writing. This issue has interviews with Dario Argento and Lloyd Kaufman (the latter from Troma, of course). There's a feature on the films of Linda Blair, a page of plugs for the zines, and plenty of short news notes (*Robocop* in animation?). (A4-40t/MG)

**SANDCASTLES** #6 ($1.50 or The Usual from Vicki Rosenzweig, 33 Indian Rd. #6-R, New York, NY 10034): A personalzine that I find always worth waiting for; Vicki (and her regular columnists Vijay Bowen and Anni Ackner) consistently manage to get me thinking. This time subjects include an excellent report on Corflu (it has to be excellent, it says good things about my talk), the "Esthetics of Laziness," and the religious fervor of those who want to be moving the human race into space. (S-17t/MG)

**SANDHILLS LIBERTARIAN GAZETTE** Oct. '90 ($1? from PO Box 2297, West Columbia, SC 29171): Articles on a Libertarian radio show, how concealed weapons reduce crime, an editorial against the Local Option Sales Tax, & several mainstream political cartoons which take on a special emphasis in this context. (S-4/JR)

**SANDWICH** #2-3 (Trade Only from Adham Loutfi, 14/26 Garton St., N. Carlton 3054, Melbourne, Vic., AUSTRALIA): A zine of various rambling recollections about living in Australia. The most interesting part of #2 reports on the Melbourne reaction to not winning an Olympics bid, an orgy of bruised national pride. There's also interesting ideas on the differences in postage stamps between here and there. #3 has some slices of life, volunteerism and community lurking in ordinary situations. (S-4/MG)

**SAN JUAN HORSESHOE** Vol. 14 #8-9 ($12/12 issues from Box 913, Montrose, CO 81402): A humorous country newspaper from an area where the people are apparently still as wild as the countryside. Most of #9 focuses on hunting, from the question of whether elk can be considered state employees in Colorado to the top ten deer and elk songs. Very odd and very twisted. (T-24t/MG)

**SASQUATCH** #24 (50¢ from 416 Maine Ave. #4A, Farmingdale, ME 04347): Rants and raves and satire and silliness. With this issue The Prime Minister is in fine form, saying nasty things about protesters outside the nuke plant where he works, telling off prisoners and censors (both left and right) and promising a future zine, **COPROPHAGY**, to satirize the generic in the zine world. (S-8/MG)

□**SATAN ON A STICK** #1 (Free *for trade of cool things* with Estragon, PO Box 6387, Annapolis, MD 21401-0387): Pacifist, satan-tinged zine with no direction in sight. Short, stoned stories that may want to go somewhere but can't, collage clippings of sexual organs and verbiage strewn everywhere. Some White Boy, but that could be construed as name-dropping. It's a first try, though, so time will tell. (HL-14r/CG)

**SCAREAPHANALIA** #93 ($7.50/yr from Michael Gingold, 55 Nordica Dr., Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520): A regular monthly zine of horror movie reviews for the discriminating viewer. #93 opens with brief comment on the NC-17 rating, but then moves on to other subjects including a deliciously nasty review of *I Come In Peace*. (HL-8t/MG)

**SCAVENGER'S NEWSLETTER** #80-81 ($1.50 from Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City, KS 66523-1329): A market info newsletter for folks writing horror, SF or fantasy for small (and sometimes not so small) markets. Each issue prints new guidelines, reports on submission responses, and reviews some zines. There's also an active lettercol, with some of the best interchange between writers and editors around. #81 has disturbing news of possible recession effects in the small press. (D-32r/MG)

**SCHMAGA** #4 ($1 from Jim Kern, 436 Indiana St., Vallejo, CA 94590): Fun from all the corners of the mind. There's the Good Old Days section, with news of men committing suicide over their wives' hairdos (1926), a condoned racist murder of an Asian in 1878, an incomplete thought story by Mecklem, Falk and Gardiner, and a look at the musical tastes of a 70's kid and her mother by Kimberly White (whose mother thought Alice Cooper was charming). My favorite was the Vermont beer review and the delight each of them took in partaking. (D-20/CG)

**SCORE SHEET** #49 ($2/4 issues from 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): An experimental literary broadside, which never does the predictable. In this issue it's Charley George's illustrated "Instructions for Hand-Carrying A Twenty-five to Thirty-Five Pound Zucchini", which is precisely what it says. (S-2t/MG)

**SCROLL OF OPLONTIS** Vol. 2 #3 ($12/4 issues from PO Box 1036, Beloit, WI 53512-1036): A zine of the cultures surrounding the Mediterranean in ancient times, with especial attention to the Greeks and Romans. This issue examines some of the lost architecture of the city of Rome, talks of the cult of the Egyptian goddess Neith, and explores the Roman festival calendar. Serious scholarship in a Pagan cause. (S-20/MG)

**THE SECOND STONE** #13 ($2.25 from PO Box 8340, New Orleans, LA 70182): A national newspaper for gay & lesbian Christians. This issue has an excellent commentary on the recent Queer Nation action directed at Veronica Leuken and her followers. There's also the usual medley of news on how gays are doing in various churches, from the liberal to the repressive. (T-20t/MG)

□**SECOND THOUGHTS** Vol. 1 #3 ($1 (?) from National Forum Foundation, 107 Second St. NE, Washington, DC 20002): A newsletter for conservative blacks, saying many nasty things about Marxism (they announce its death) and leftism in general. They're also none too keen on affirmative action and civil rights, apparently preferring a sort of rugged individualism. (S-12t/MG)

**THE SECRETS OF LIFE AND DEATH** #20 (25¢ from Jonathan, 5205 W. Caribbean, Glendale, AZ 85306): Some morbid photos and words leaving a feeling of despair when finished. Front and back covers are heroin-injection shots—inside is filled with killers, David Cassidy and a note from someone's mother that left me depressed. (MM-10/CG)

**THE SF CONVENTION REGISTER** Autumn 1990 ($2 & 45¢ SASE from Erwin S. Strauss,. PO Box 3343, Fairfax, VA 22038): The most comprehensive listing around of science fiction conventions, those wonderful ways to spend a weekend in the company of other strange people. Listed chronologically but cross-indexed several other ways, it gives times and dates and pries and guests and names for hundreds of upcoming cons and bids for the next decade or so. (S-22r/MG)

**THE SHADOW** #13 ($1 from PO Box 20298, New York, NY 10009): Revolutionary anarchist news from front lines on the Lower East Side of New York. This issue reports on the police effort to shut down sidewalk peddlers, with more photos than ever of undercover cops. There's also more bad news about the repression of squats, plenty of local politics, and more. Anarchist insiders will be interested in the story of the closing of Sabotage books, told by a member of the faction that didn't rush out a pamphlet on the subject. (T-20t/MG)

**SHAMAN'S DRUM** ($3.95 from PO Box 2636, Berkeley, CA 94702): This issue has mostly articles on first-hand experiences of the Sun Dance, Umbanda drumming and Candomble ritual, as well as features on applying shamanic techniques in modern life. Beautifully illustrated with photos, painting and drawings. Fine resource information. Not as scholarly as one might wish, but still outstanding. (S-80t/JR)

**SHEER FILTH** #9 ($2 *CASH* from David Flint, 39 Holly Street, Offerton, Stockport, SK1 4DP, ENGLAND): Movie and video coverage that explores the boundaries of the depraved—weird porno films, undergrounds like the new *Ghosts of the Civil Dead*, and nasty bodily functions included. Robert Crumb and Japanimation also come in for some press in this issue. (D-32r/MG)

**SHENANDOAH NEWSLETTER** Vol. 17 # 7-8 ($1 from 736 West Oklahoma St., Appleton, WI 54914): Native American, with a quite interesting mix of legends, quotations from persons historical and contemporary, and news items. Scan doa provides pithy comments and ends with an editorial critical of the Kuwait fracas and predicting a depression 2 years hence. Informative, cultured and dignified. (S-17/JR)

**SHERLOCKIAN TIDBITS** #13 ($2 from Arnold Korotkin, 12 Glenwood Rd., Upper Montclair, NJ 07043): A collection of mentions of Sherlock Holmes culled from various major media. This includes everything from detectives in advertisements to a stock trader talking about the "Hound of the Baskervilles" pattern in price fluctuations. For the real Sherlockian fanatic. (S-12/MG)

**SHOOTING STAR** #5 ($4 from 727 President St., Brooklyn, NY 11215): A zine devoted to "integrating astrology & flower remedies"—the latter being homeopathic remedies based on various flowers and other plant parts. This issue, being devoted to Pluto in Scorpio, is sort of down, but it offers help as well—for example in a list of remedies to aid in working through Twelve Step programs. Very well done. (S-32t/MG)

**SHORT FUSE** #46 ($1 from Holden, PO Box 90436, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-0436): Freeform literary, artistic and poetic ramblings in an open forum. It includes dreams, unusual works from folks like Catlin, Oberc and Weinman, and plenty of drawings. Holden's idiosyncratic printing gives it a unique feel, broken glass in a field of flowers. If you're in the area, there are regular Salons which apparently have some of the same feeling as well. (S-26/MG)

**SHOTS** #23 ($15/6 issues from PO Box 109, Joseph, OR 97846): A magazine for amateur photographers (and friendly professionals too), that features a grand variety of work in every issue. This one is mostly about love, with lots of hugs and kisses of various intensities and genders. Dan Price rings in as always with commentary on life and photography, and lends a homey feel to his magazine. (O-56/MG)

**SHOW ME FREEDOM** Summer '90 ($15/yr. from Missouri Libertarian Party, PO Box 3231, St. Louis, MO 63130): Libertarian paper saying no to drug wars & yes to jury nullification. Sensible stressing of Libertarianism's stronger points omitting those amoral excesses that make some of them fun to read about. (S-6t/JR)

□**SHRINK WRAP** #1 (11859 Sewell Rd.,Phila., PA 19166): A somewhat directionless litmag, with cut-ups, "neighborhood crime watch" sendups, and some rather unclear poetry. Who knows where this will go or why?. (D-32/JR)

**SIGNAL INTERNATIONAL** #70 ($10 from Box 150, FI-15111 Lahti, FINLAND): An international penpal zine that has hundreds of ads and dozens of photos from folks around the world. They also list a bunch of other penpal organizations, just in case this selection isn't enough for you. (S-40t/MG)

□**SIGN OF THE TIMES** Summer 1990 ($15/4 issues from Studio 403, PO Box 70672, Seattle, WA 98107-0672): A fine issue of one of the best litmags around. This issue wanders around the sexual arena, touching down at a party for lesbians, a strange introduction between two men, brotherly love in the form of sperm donations, and Calla May Winslow walking naked down Main Street. Great stories, plausible enough to be true, strange enough to make you think twice. (S-32t/MG)

**SIMPLE COOKING** #28 ($16/yr from PO Box 58, Castine, ME 04421): History, anecdotes and unique recipes for the cook (or anyone) who loves to read about food. This issue concentrates on pasta—its origin, how to eat it, peasant recipes (the best kind) and personal opinions. There's also articles on eating in Matera, food book reviews, and a visit to a town market in Portugal. (S-8/CG)

**THE SINGLE EYE** #3 ($3? from Allan Clark, POB 1415, Station H, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3G 2W4): A high quality and standard zine: contains interviews, collage, reviews &c., all done with typical Canadian style and sophistication. Excellently laid out, tasteful, but somewhat lacking in character. The artists interviewed talk of Dada, the collages are appropriately inexplicable and sinister, but it doens't go anywhere. The editor needs to develop a notion of what his unique contribution will be, what he alone could see to bring together in one place. (S-16r/JR)

**SINGULARITY** #3 ($3 from 89 Mass. Ave., Suite 199, Boston, MA 02115): A lofty array of heady articles designed to plunge you into areas where you thought only geeks went. If at first it seems like the Yale fraternity of guys with pens in their pockets, stick with it—it gets better. Articles include an inside experience with the "mental health" industry, the promotion of ParadoX OrthodoXy and a review of Virtual Reality symposium in NYC recently. Read it in

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parts to avoid Viewpoint Shock. (S-40/CG)

**SKEPTICAL INQUIRER** Vol. 15 #1 ($6.25 from PO Box 229, Buffalo, NY 14215): The digest of CSICOP, the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, a group of professional skeptics and debunkers. This time they tackle the N-machine (another perpetual energy device), Neural Organization Technique, and paranormal "explanations" that invoke quantum mechanics. Tends to be a bit dogmatic, but largely very hard to argue with. (D-112t/MG)

□**THE SKROLL** #1 (2 stamps from Terri Havens, 301 Court St., Little Valley, NY 14755): A handwritten "dead" poetry broadside from the ex-editor of **DESIGNING CORPSES**. These are mostly eery little ditties having to do with nocturnal desires, vampires and a tattoo-collecting knife wielder. Future issues will feature specific poets. The editor is looking for more vampire, dark and erotic poetry as well. (L-1/CG)

**SKUH** #2 ($1 from Anton Mechanism, 7420 B Maine Ct. #10229, Clovis, NM 88101): A mix of a lot of things. This includes skateboarding (from how to do it to a protest against a ban at the local University), poetry, short stories, music reviews, photos, and more. A place for people in Eastern New Mexico to express themselves and build some sort of scene together. (S-22/MG)

□**SLIMETRAX** #4-5 ($1 (?) from PO Box 1305, Suite 122, Brunswick, ME 04011): Humor newsletter from the Brunswick Loyal Order of Bar Slugs—these folks are in the Navy now and seek Slack and exotic victuals in their spare time. SubGenius flavorings, plus reports on lawn ornaments in the wilds of Maine all float around here happily. Editor Rogue is hoping for a more civilian mailing here and would be happy to hear from landlubbing non-pinks. (S-2/CG)

**SLINGSHOT** #38 (Donation from 700 Eshelman Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720): A leftist zine from the students at Berkeley, some of whom are as radicalized as ever. They attack the troop buildup in the Mideast, demand People's Park, oppose Operation Rescue, and go in for many other politically correct causes. There's some humor here, but at times it seems drowned out by rage. (S-16t/MG)

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□**SLOW LANE JOURNAL** #1-2 ($9.50/4 issues from PO Box 876, Sacramento, CA 95812-0876): A tabloid of the smaller towns of America (and, in #2, Germany) and the joys of traveling slowly through them. #1 starts off with Winnemucca, #2 has Meeker, from current recreation to a failed bank robbery from long ago. Lots of short bits and down-home humor here—reminiscent of **OUT WEST**. (T-24t/MG)

□**SLUT MAG** Autumn 1990 ($3.95 from Dew U. Care, 147 Second Avenue #207, New York NY 10003): What starts out as a seemingly offensive display of genitals and "dirty" words turns out to be the brain child of some pretty enlightened people. Sex is everywhere—but more than that, sex is essential and the editors here want everyone to understand that. The prose ranges from food fantasies to a paranoid (and scary) stream-of-consciousness rant, while editorials take a serious look at sexual child abuse and a satiric "obscenities" questionnaire. All sexualities are represented here, and with flourish. (s-37/CG)

**SMALL PRESS REVIEW** Vol. 22 #9-10 ($20/yr from Dustbooks, PO Box 100, Paradise, CA 95967): The standard place to look for reviews of new poetry and prose, **SPR** is still going as strong as ever. Contents include much news from the litmag end of the small press scene, as well as reviews, letters and the occasional cantankerous editorial. (S-16t/MG)

**SMILE** #5 ($2.50 *CASH/Stamps* from PO Box 3502, Madison, WI 53704): Further explorations of the theoretical and practical margins of society, from a generally Neoist point of view—though incorporating other schools, and much that is unschoolable. The attraction of wild children, the basics of Situationism, living outside the system, Mae Brussel's conspiracy research, free energy; it all adds up to a free-floating life of intense desires and totally changed social relations. An intriguing and scary vision. (S-48t/MG)

**SNICKER** #11 ($2 from 1248 Oak Bark Dr., St. Louis, MO 63146): Still fighting the evil lawyers from Anheuser-Busch, this humor paper continues to satirize them and other big names. There are plenty of cartoons to laugh (or snicker) at, a look at some memorable assassinations, and "The Trial of Adam & Eve". (T-20t/MG)

**SNOW COUNTRY** Nov.-Dec. 1990 ($17/10 issues from PO Box 2072, Harlan, IA 51593): A fat slick magazine for those who prefer to take their recreation in colder climes. In addition to the expected skiing coverage—which is extensive—they get off into other tangents, like the story in the November issue about snowshoeing in Labrador. There's a comparative review of cars for winter driving, an exercise program to improve your balance, and plenty of ads for wonderfully garish fluorescent winter clothing and equipment. (S-120t/MG)

**SOCIALISM AND SEXUALITY** #2 ($1 (?) from R.J. Hinde, 5437 S. Harper #2, Chicago, IL 60615): This one is the newsletter (deep breath) of the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Caucus of the Youth Section of the Democratic Socialists of America. As a result, perhaps, it is mainly directed internally, at noting similar activities in other socialist parties and suggesting policies and actions that ought to be taken by the parent group. Interesting to note that despite the title, straight sexuality does not seem to be an issue. (S-7t/MG)

**THE SOCIALIST** Oct.-Nov. 1990 ($5/yr from 5502 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90016): A journal of socialist thought and action in the US and abroad. The October issue has talk of the New Democratic Party triumphing in Ontario and the secrecy of Bush's budget. In November they're banging the drum about recession, stagflation, unemployment and the "Misery Index"—obviously an economic downturn must mean those in power are wrong. A letter also insists on the difference between socialist and social democratic parties. (S-12t/CG/MG)

**THE SODALITY OF HOLY ST. BRIDE & COMPANIONS OF ST. AELRED** (Contact Joy Hibbert, 11 Rutland St., Hanley, Stoke on Trent, ST1 5JG, ENGLAND): This is an amateur press association, small but with some dedicated members, for gay and bisexual folk in Britain. Mostly it's comments, and as there is a circle of friends involved, somewhat opaque at points, Currently the apa is changing administrators, but Joy should be able to put you in touch if you're a serious prospect to contribute. (A4-15/MG)

**SOLAR MIND** #1 ($4.50 from Joe Stevenson, 759 S. State #1, Ukiah, CA 95482): A new alternative energy newsletter that combines social and philosophical thought with technical news. Much of this issue is focused on alternative transport, ways to wean us from the gasoline powered engine. Some alternatives (like the Sinclair C5) are available in the here and now, while other technologies offer promise for the future. (S-8t/MG)

☐**SOMNIAL TIMES** Vol.2 #4 ($6/yr membership from Gloria Reiser,, 1253 Park Place, Quincy, IL 62301): The newsletter of the Dreamers SIG of American Mensa (but not associated editorially with Mensa). It's very much in the apa style—with members sharing their dreams in great detail. There is some emphasis on lucidity and a recounting of the Dream Meeting Project, in which participants were supposed to converge in a dream state, ostensibly, at the Golden Gate Bridge. Pretty intense and absorbing. (S-10/CG)

**THE SOPHISTICATE** #11&12 ($2.50 & age statement from Kenneth Weinert, 1701 Larkspur, Arlington, TX 76013): Reprints of vintage cheesecake and supermarket tabloid oddities provide a backdrop for the satiric outbursts of these collage sophomores. #12 was devoted to hot pics of Ann Margaret & articles on Henry Lucas the serial killer; 11 zero'd in on Sheena Queen of the Jungle & Vampira. Often quite funny—i.e. mean—in its put-downs of Trekkies, cowgirls, Sinnead,&c, it also has some fine movie reviews. Politically incorrect, often disgusting, I found it delightful. (S-40/JR)

**SOS NEWSLETTER** Vol. 3 #3 ($1 (?) from CODESH, PO Box 5, Central Park Sta., Buffalo, NY 14215-0005): Newsletter of Secular Organizations for Sobriety, a less-religious alternative to AA. This issue has a wickedly funny sendup of the twelve steps, but mostly it is much more serious than that. Of interest is an article on the use of the isolation tank to kick addictions. (S-8t/MG)

☐**THE SOURCE** Oct. 1990 ($ 1 (?) from PO Box 66385, Albany, NY 12210): There are a bunch of colleges in the Albany area, and this new paper is trying to tap that market. It features articles on campus life and recreation, listings of events, some humor (Alan Catlin runs amok with puns in this issue), sports and interviews. It'll be interesting to see whether the college audience is literate enough for this to succeed. (T-24/MG)

☐**SOURCES SOUTHWEST** #1-3 ($10/yr from PO Box 35754, Phoenix, AZ 85069): A new "regional visionary journal" inspired by the original SOURCES out around D.C. It's got a mix of New Age and related articles, from Ayurveda to flower essences to holistic animal care. #2 has an interesting interview about a program in Sedona to teach anyone to be psychic. (S-24t/MG)

☐**SOUTH AFRICAN OUTLOOK** Vol. 119 #1419 (R 1.20 from Outlook Publ., PO Box 245 Rondebosch 7700, Capetown.): Anti militarisation zine, with articles on the prominent role of women in anti-conscription politics, changes in militarisation policies in the post-Botha period, & other similarly informative and well-focussed articles. This should be of interest to war resistors of any country, and presents a little known aspect of South African society. (A4-18t/JR)

**THE SOUTHERN LIBERTARIAN MESSENGER** Vol. XIX #3 ($8/yr from Rt. 10 Box 52A, Florence, SC 29501): Sometimes cranky, usually funny, news and views from the Libertarian side of things. In this issue they finally announce their '89 Crackpot Awards, for notable South Carolina politicians. (S-10r/MG)

☐**THE SOUTHERN NATIONAL NEWSLETTER** Vol. 12 #4 ($20/yr from PO Box 18214, Memphis, TN 38181): A newsletter for people who want the old Confederacy to take another stab at independence. While they say a lot about loving their own people rather than hating others, there are bits here that are rather disturbing—like the description (quoted with apparent approval) of liberalism as "an amalgam of communism, socialism, fascism, Negrophilism, Phariseeism, humanism, and atheism." (L-20/MG)

**SPARKS** #25 (Contact PO Box 145, Moreland 3058, AUSTRALIA): A newsletter from a bunch of anarchist transportation workers. It concentrates most of its ire on the bosses (of course), arguing for a syndicalist union, or at the very least salary rates higher for the people who do the actual work than those who supervise it. Much of the minutiae here is opaque to someone not riding trams about Melbourne. (D-16/MG)

**SPECTRUM** #15 ($2.75 from 61 Dutile Rd., Laconia, NH 03246): A "Wholistic News Magazine" with a distinctly New Age feel to it. The contents are abstracts and condensations of articles on health, lifestyle and so on. Food irradiation, meditation, TENS treatments, and sexual illiteracy are among the topics here. They also sell computer radiation screens. (S-34t/MG)

☐**THE SPIGGOT** vol.1 #1 ($5 yr. from PO Box 167, Westmont, IL 60559): Mild humor newsletter. The lead story, "King of the Misters" features Mt. T, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Clean &c. in a convention-turned-murder-mystery. Only slightly funnier than it sounds. But every so often there's an excellent pass of pate, so this is probably one to keep an eye on. A respectable first shot. (HL-8r/JR)

**THE SPIRITUAL REVOLUTIONARY** #12 ($3 from S/R Press, PO Box 60327, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0327): Further news from Kyle and Luna Griffith, major proponents of the idea that much of our lives can be explained by the thesis of a "War in Heaven" (the title of one of Kyle's books). This issue roams from thoughts on "Jesus as an Enemy of Theocracy" to Annie Sprinkle's notes on healing your sex life. (S-26/MG)

**SPIT** #2 ($3 from 529 2nd St., Brooklyn, NY 11215): Second issue and getting better all the time. A litmag trying to support the "emerging artist," they have an editorial attitude which will make that possible. Mark Newgarden's comic art view is unique—I'd like a poster of it myself—and the written talent is flourishing, too. Laurie Gwen Shapiro's "The Direction of Modern Poetry" should be hung up in poetry classrooms in colleges everywhere. Choose from yellow, blue or gray for your cover. (S-63/CG)

**THE SPOREPRINT** Sept. 1990 ($2 (?) from The Fane, PO Box 1295, Stn. E, Victoria, BC V8W 2W3, CANADA): The newsletter of the Fane of the Psilocybe Mushroom Association, a group which believes that psychedelic mushrooms are sacraments. The reprint a great deal of material in this issue, from anguish over the Supreme Court peyote decision to hopeful news from reputable anti-prohibitionists. One of the last remaining journals to openly call for legalization. (S-12/MG)

**SPUN** #59-60 ($1 from Doug Chapel Comics, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): This is the issue where Doug predicts computer use soon, but I hope it doesn't happen, because this must be the premiere zine of handwritten content—which I really enjoy. #59 has some music reviews, zine reviews, a guided tour through the bowels of Franklin, Mass., artwork by Carrie/Rod, and a short article on the beer attendance list at a recent BBQ. Kind of like a passed note in school—fun. Well, with #60 he does go to Mac layout, but it still maintains the personal touch while developing a cool graphics orientation. (D-20/CG/MG)

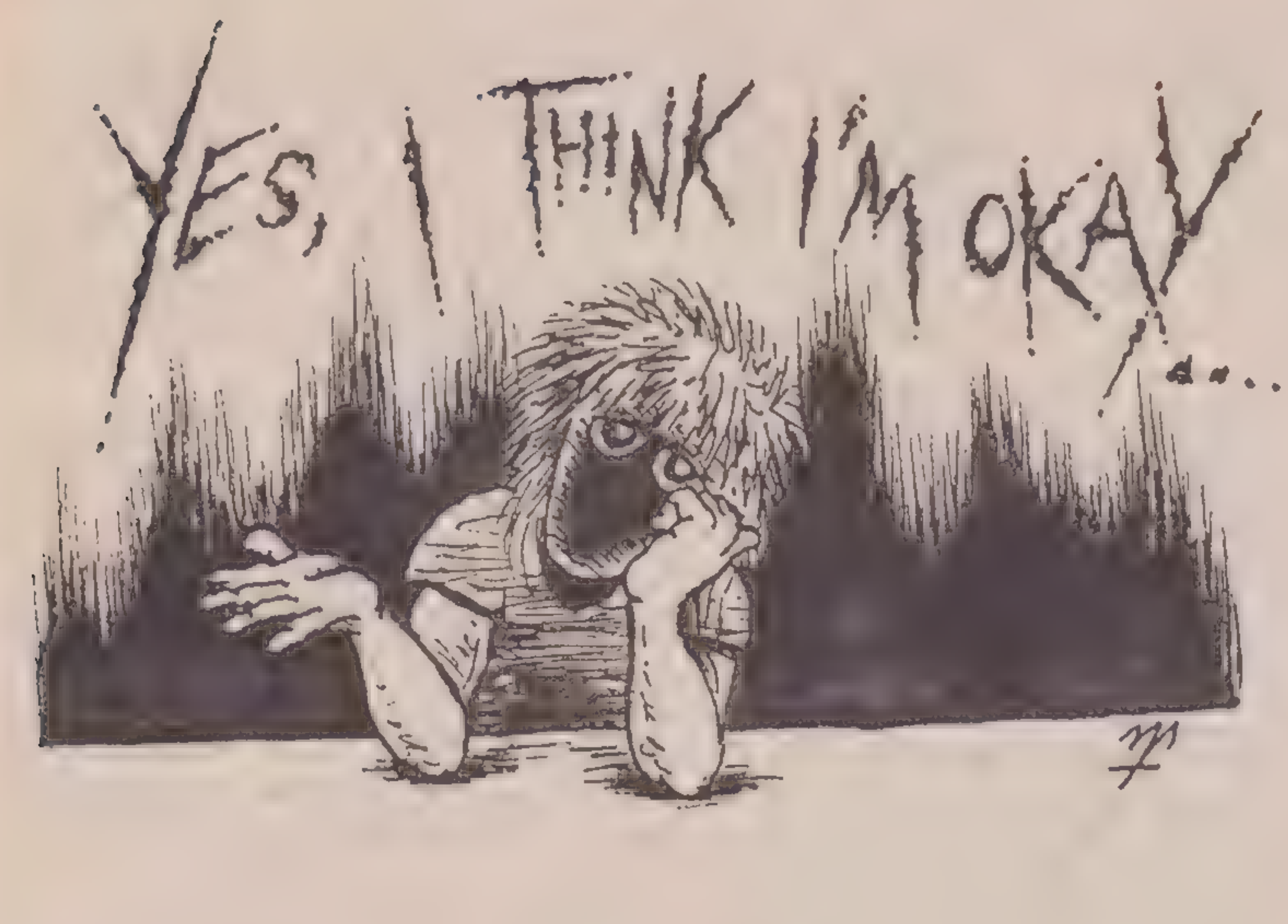
**THE STAMP ACT** Summer 1990 ($2 from 7307 6th Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98117): An earnest collection of artwork made from rubber stamps. The people involved in this project are as devoted to their stamp friends as they are to the stamps themselves—witnessed by their mourning over the death of one of their contributors. This issue has some found stamp work by their friend, Lori Icke, plus new pieces by them, honoring her. (S-18/CG)

**STAMPEDE OF WORMS** #? ($1 from Derek Caterwaul, c/o 814 N. Dodge, Iowa City, IA 52240): Often illegible and at no point more intelligible than the title. This one claims as sources of inspiration Burroughs, Kesey, Dick & the Tarot Deck. Ugly ravings, effectively collaged and illustrated. (HL-22/JR)

**STARLIGHT** Autumn, 1990 ($3 from POB 452, 00101 Helsinki Finland): English-language Finnish pagan zine: this issue is on Flatnose, Clawfoot, Blue Stumpytail, Mielikki's Hound, Golden Cuckoo, Fatty, Forest Apple—better known as BEAR. There's outlines of ancient Finnish bear hunting dramas, prehistoric bears in rock paintings, info on a Latvian bear hero, & much more. Like all Neopagans, they do a mix of invention and anthropology, but immensely benefit by the presence of a never effaced living tradition. Fascinating. (D-52r/JR)

**STAR ROUTE JOURNAL** Vol. 8 #7-8 ($10/10 issues from PO Box 1451, Redway, CA 95560-1451): Alternative news and views from logging country, where it isn't always popular to be alternative. In #7, Editor Mary Siler Anderson writes of protesting with some other grandparents and talks more about nonviolence and other tactics. There's a few book reviews, a comic, more hippies, thoughts on non-profit motives, and lots more. (T-20t/MG)

**STICKY CARPET DIGEST** #7 ($5/4 issues from Thomas Deja, 38-27 147th St. #3, Flushing, NY 11354): This one has expanded from movies to become a critique of culture in general, with


YES, I THINK I'M OKAY /...

television, a ninja advice column and an interview with Too Much Joy (a band arrested for performing 2 Live Crew covers in the same bar where the Crew was busted). I like 'em even if they do pan one of my favorites, *Island Claw*, in this issue. A good mix of submainstream and utter esoterica. (S-16t/MG)

**STIRSIL** Vol. II #1 ($1 (?) from PO Box 16492, Knoxville, TN 37996-4800): This litmag closes with one of the most powerful anti-drunk driving editorials that I've yet seen, definitely not for the faint of heart, provoked by a slew of recent accidents down in Knoxville. Otherwise, most of the issue is poetry, with topics from animal rights to the dangers of the modern world to obsessive love. Some students are clearly still interesting people. (T-8t/MG)

**THE STONE & SLING** #13&14 (donation from PAGAN ANGEL PRESS, 1205 County Route 60, Rexville, NY 14877) One-man environmental zine, combining harrowing reprints from mainstream press articles with personal experiences and poetry from various hands. #13 covers nuclear waste & the struggle to protect the Catskill-Adirondack region, as well as a passionate article on the place of poetry in defense of wildness. #14 focused on the anti-incinerator fight—smokestack waste gets into local produce. A good balance of scary fact-brandishing and encouraging firsthand info on citizens' action that *is* having an impact. (S-12r/JR)

**STORM WARNING** #16 ($1 from VIETNAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR ANTI IMPERIALIST, 4710 University Way NE, # 1612, Seattle, WA 98105): Strident zine of war resistance, with letters from enlisted refusers, (the Larsen letter, &c.,) a highly xeroxable demoralisation sheet to send to folks at the front, a flag-burning poster—all this against a background of anti-imperialism and "Amerikka" bashing. Angry, simplistic, denunciatopry, pedantic—need I say it?—Communist. (D-26t/JR)

**STRAIGHT OUT** #7 ($1 from 16339 Steubner Airline #205, Spring, TX 77379): This one comes out of the music scene, but it's mainly about being vegetarian, with side excursions into the world of straightedge and a bit of discussion of bands and music. This issue features an interview with the editor of **POSITIVE THOUGHTS** as well as a batch of columns from various sincere youth. (HL-24/MG)

**STRANGE PLASMA** #3 ($3 from Edgewood Press, PO Box 264, Cambridge, MA 02238): A spiffy magazine of science fiction which strikes a good balance between extrapolated futuretech and human interest. In this issue, I enjoyed Terry Dowling's psychologically-based "The Quiet Redemption of Andy the House" and the madcap "The Sins of the Fathers", by Christopher Evans. Gwyneth Jones contributes a fine column as well. (S-38t/MG)

**THE STREETFIGHTING AESTHETE** #1 ($3 from David Thomas Roberts, PO Box 5243, Kreole Sta., Moss Point, MI 39563): Roberts himself is responsible for much of the contents of this litmag, large chunks of which—especially his paintings—seem like folk art for the deranged. He also has the odd habit of reprinting diary entries and letters to other people. For the other contributors, I was most taken by Glenn Miller's detailed geometric drawings, even with their malignant titles. (S-32/MG)

□**STRONG COFFEE** #1 ($1 (?) from PO Box 1959, Evanston, IL 60204): Unbelievable! Not only is the Chicago area loaded with cafes and coffee lovers, there's even a zine about 'em. I'm moving. Most of this litmag is about the blessed beverage, plus coffee reviews, coffee shop reviews and some poetry and prose that have nothing to do with coffee, but like the company they keep anyway. (O-11t/CG)

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE** #13 ($3 from 68 Queensland Ave., Toronto, ONT, M4J 1Y3, CANADA): A growing newszine all about non-violent resistance, focusing on Canada but with news from around the world. This issue has several pieces on Native resistance in Canada as well as the full text of the statement from Erik Larsen, one of the Marines who refuses to go to the middle east. (S-26t/MG)

**SUBLIME SLIME** Vol. 12 #3 ($1 (?) from Steve McCallister, 21925 Meridian Ave. S, Bothell, WA 98021): Satire and humor in a political vein. This issue offers a mid-term assessment of the Bush Presidency together with predictions for the next two years. Among other things, he thinks Dan Quayle is too ashamed of being stupid to make a good President. (S-7t/MG)

**THE SUBTLE JOURNAL OF RAW COINAGE** #37 (5¢ from Ge(of) Huth, RD 5, Currybush Rd., Schenectady, NY 12306): Linguistics of a higher plane. This is a micro-mini of three words formed from other words, making new responses and causing new thoughts. Geof's enthusiasm and knowledge continue to awe those fascinated with the creation of language from an existing source. My favorite in #37 is "psychoptic." (MM-1/CG)

**THE SUBTLE JOURNAL OF RAW COINAGE** #38 (20¢ & a stamp from Geof Huth, RD5, Currybush Rd., Schenectady, NY 12306): This time around this collection of newords comes out as a business card; imagine the surprise of your new trade acquaintance when you whip one of *these* out of your wallet! Anyhow, the subtitle is "Moroccasins", and it contains three words found in Morocco by D. Watt on a recent trip there. (MM-1t/MG)

□**SUFI** #7 ($16/4 issues from 306 W. 11th St., New York, NY 10014): A serious journal of Sufism worldwide. Contents include historical studies, firsthand accounts of following the path, and new translations of classic works of the Sufi masters. Not a shortcut or a set of precise instructions for receiving enlightenment, but rather hints and glimpses of what might lie on the path. (A4-40t/MG)

□**SUPERPLEX SURVEY** #1 ($2.00 sample from Aaron Goff, 3049 Pillsbury, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A new publication from the ranks of pro-wrestling fans. Each issue contains reader/fan surveys and results (this issue's subject: the AWA) and any reader participation. Included in the premiere issue are an interview with Billy Anderson, and notes on the NWA show in NY. (S-10/CG)

**THE SURVIVOR** Vol. 7 #11 ($10/12 issues from Kurt Saxon, PO Box 327, Harrison, AR 72601): Political editorializing and helpful information from maverick survivalist (he wouldn't use the term, as most in the business are crooks and creeps) Kurt Saxon. In this issue he reprints an article on the making of waterproof matches, talks about the Mideast, and comments on the continuing legal hassles keeping his books out of print. Idiosyncratic but informative. (T-16/MG)

**SWORD OF SHAHRAZAD** #13 ($5 from PO Box 152844, Arlington, TX 76015-2844): A fantasy/SF oriented litmag that runs itself as a sort of writers' workshop. Contributors and readers are encouraged to write in with critiques and comments, which are published in later issues. I was very amused (though a bit baffled) by Don Stockard's "The Well-Packaged Tour" in this issue. Donald King's "The Invaders" was quite amusing as well. Also of note is the gradual development of the background for shared world stories being conducted by writers here. (D-54t/MG)

□**SYZYGY** #1 ($1.50 from Plaster Cramp Press, PO Box 5975, Chicago, IL 60680): A new collection of works from the margins of all types, artistic, political and literary. There are works from Freddie Baer, Jake Berry, GX Jupitter-Larson, John Bennett and lots more. Seth Tisue reviews zines, music and other stuff, and Bob Black is interviewed at some length, with the latest update on his bombing. (HL-52t/MG)

□**TAB TO BLOCK BICUSPID** V.1 #3 ($1(?) from Blackhumour, PO Box 315, Station A, Vancouver, BC, V6C 2M7, CANADA): A curious journal operating from a higher level of consciousness on matters of consensus reality. Looks like this could have been well-recieved in the old **CRITIQUE** magazine. 3 vignettes get the message across blithely and point from 3 different directions to a single spot. Or is it the other way around? I'd say this is definitely a part of it. (S-4t/CG)

**TAFF DOOR** #1.1 (SASE from Robert Lichtman, PO Box 30, Glen Ellen, CA 95442): News about the current TAFF race. TAFF is the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund, which sends US SF fans to British conventions and vice versa. Most of this is an update on the fundraising zine auction; if you're interested in adding some classic SF zines to your collection, and helping out a good cause, get it. (S-2t/MG)

**TALKING LEAVES** #17 ($15/12 issues from 1430 Willamette #367, Eugene, OR 97401): A monthly bioregional journal which always finds a few new things to say. This issue has wolf conservation, saving old growth forests, and a few eastern masters, among other goodies. Swami Beyondananda and a list of local contacts are constant features. (T-20t/MG)

**TAND** #4 (The Usual from mark Manning, 1400 E. Mercer #19, Seattle, WA 98112): A fat and traditional SF fanzine, going so far as to be mimeographed on Twiltone-like paper. There is continued heavy lettercol discussion among many elders and youngers of fandom, with Elfquest and lojban being popular topics. Wally Weber interjects lots of one-liners, Blotto Otto goes back into fannish history, and there's a cute little "Foundation and Kapital" story. (S-53/MG)

**TAPBLATT** (Address, price, not given): German-language fanzine with clublistings, a concert review, squatting options info, record notices & comments on the nuisance of oficially sponsored gentrification. Standard fare. (D-20t/JR)

**TASTE OF LATEX** Vol. 1 #3 ($15/4 issues from PO Box 460122, San Francisco, CA 94146): A wild magazine exploring some of the fringes of sexuality in the nineties. There's a pictorial here with a barbed wire crown of thorns and another featuring hot wax, a story of Daddy and Son with a surprising ending, and a shaky account of being victimized by some fagbashers. Throughout, all forms of sexual expression are encouraged, in word and picture. For the explorative type. (S-32t/MG)

**TENCTON TIMES** #2 ($5 from Ray Burke, PO Box 421, Black Creek, NC 27813): A newsletter for folks interested in *Alien Nation*, complete with a postcard to send asking for the series to come back. Meanwhile, they're publishing bits of fan fiction and gearing up for a role-playing game among readers of the newsletter. $3.50 an issue for members of the Tenctonese Society; write for more info on joining. (D-24r/MG)

**THE TEST BANNER** Vol. 3 #2 ($10/yr from American Peace Test, PO Box 26725, Las Vegas, NV 89195-2816): The newspaper of the American Peace Test, the group that's doing the most to organize anti-nuclear activism in the USA. They report no past and upcoming actions here, and spread news about fallout, leaks and other nasty side effects of the nuke world. (T-20t/MG)

**THE TEXAS SF INQUIRER** #34-35 ($1.50 from FACT, PO Box 9612, Austin, TX 78766): The fanzine of the Fandom Association of Central Texas, still searching for some stability. #35 is a good issue, with plenty of fanstuff (convention and book reviews) and other goodies. The latter include the first fan art review I can recall seeing and a bizarre military plan to use computer viruses as weapons. (S-20t/MG)

**T.F.Y.S.** Vol.9 ($2 *CASH/stamps*, from TFYS, PO Box 22551 Memphis TN 38122-0551): "Think For Yourself, Schmuck" is an archetypal and high-grade marginals zine: Sam Haine explains why John Lennon deserved it, Thom Metzger croons "Olds-Mo-Turd", Bob Black does unto the Mike Hammer Thriller, and many other oddments of wit and dissatisfaction. Enlivened by the wry "I survived Catholic School" comics. Outstanding. (D-56r/JR)

□**THANATEROS** #2 ($4 *CASH* from PO Box 89143, Atlanta, GA 30312): The only journal for Chaos Magickians on this side of the Atlantic. This sort of ritual magick tends to be both high-tech and at least a bit tongue in cheek, or so it seems to the outsider. Articles cover working magick against corporations, the design of a new Qabala and a new Tarot, and cut-ups as a magickal rite, among other goodies. Well-done if impenetrable. (S-24t/MG)

□**A THEATER OF BLOOD** #1 ($2.50 from Pyx Press, C. Darren Butler, PO Box 1347, Orem, UT 84059-1347): A somewhat scuzzy litmag, perhaps reacting to its locale. There is poetry of abortion, short stories of deranged medical sex, a dominatrix supporting her husband and so on. Pretty cheesy stuff. (D-24/MG)

**THEY WON'T STAY DEAD** #12 ($1 from Brian Johnson, 11 Werner Rd., Greenville, PA 16125): A movie zine that ranges from the mild *Satan's Cheerleaders* to the hardcore grossout *Death Scenes*. There's also other stuff, like some reminiscences on carnival funhouses and a plug for the latest Hasil Adkins music. **THEY WON'T STAY DEAD** is also making some posters available. The first is called "Drive In Dreams", an 11x14 collage of classic monster movie PR, yours for only $1.(D-16r/MG)

□**THINK! MAGAZINE** #1($3 from PO Box 8745, Fort Collins, CO 80524): This is a compilation of cyberpunkia: essays, thoughts, interviews—along the same lines as **BOING BOING**, but on its own in a very cool way. The only common denominator at work here is a slightly twisted view of reality and a commitment to thinking. Their "crucial first issue" packs some wallops, including an interview with Libertarian sf writer L. Neil Smith, an article by infamous hacker John Draper (Captain Crunch) on joint software ventures in the USSR and some regular departments designed to pique your intelligence. Buy this if you want some brain cells nudged. It should go far. (D-41/CG)

**THIRD EYE** #6 ($2.50 from P.O. Box 2683, Bellingham, WA 98227-2683): A whole bunch of religious texts, from an Upanishad to Isaac Bonewits on cults to directions for self-dosing with magic mushrooms. The only focus is a kind of liberal universalism. Nothing in great depth or particularly wierd. (D-40t/JR)

□**THIRD WAY SUPPORTERS BULLETIN** Oct. 1990 ($5 from PO Box 10203, Arlington, VA 22210): An internal bulletin for people involved with Third Way, an international movement that proposes family-based, race-separated alternatives to capitalism and communism. This one explains their new strategy of decentralization and the thinking behind it. (D-8r/MG)

**THE THOREAU SOCIETY BULLETIN** #193 ($20/yr from Thoreau Society, 156 Belknap St., Concord, MA 01742): This group is coming up on its fiftieth anniversary and still finding new things to write about Thoreau. This issue opens with an astronomical and meteorological analysis of an incident from his journal, goes on to look at recent publications, and reports incidents and scholarship having to do with Thoreau. A very dedicated bunch. (S-8r/MG)

**THOUGHTS** #25 ($9/3 issues from Mother Earth College of Ontario, 3, The Pines, 100 Bain Ave., Riverdale, Toronto, ONT, M6K 1E8, CANADA): A collection of pagan and environmental writings and reviews, the majority of which are reprinted from other publications. There's a lot going on in those circles, and this zine pulls together notes and pointers so that you can follow up. Also has some original reviews. (L-80/MG)

**THUNDERBOW II** #13-14 ($1 from POB 55223,Tulsa, OK 74155): Pagan zine whose principle value will be as an events calendar for people in the area. There are also some channeled articles and various ramblings: all are brief, most have a sermon-like texture, and none are really about anything. (S-6t/JR)

□**TIDAL SUBSIDY** (2 stamps or trade from MFS, PO Box 289, Auburn, AL 36831): A collection of uncredited excerpts from other works which the editor found interesting. There's some alchemy and some Jung, dodechahedral lines of force on the earth, nature-love and water striders, and other goodies here. A bit of Forteanism creeps in too. (D-16t/MG)

**THE TORCH** Sept. 1990 (1 hr wages/yr from YPSL c/o Socialist Party, 516 W. 25 St., New York, NY 10001): The paper of the Young People's Socialist League, the latest leftwing youth liberation group around. There's a few articles here on the hassles of being a socialist youth, anti-censorship demands, and a report from their reconstituting conference. (T-8t/MG)

**TOUCHPOINT** Vol. 3 #4 ($4 from 27 Music Square East, #169FG, Nashville, TN 37203): Personal ads, many coded for mail forwarding, from people involved in this "Network for the Nonmonogamous". It encourages people seeking stable relationships, not swingers, and has members across the country. (S-8r/MG)

**TRAJECTORIES** #8 ($6 from The Permanent Press, PO Box 700305, San Jose, CA 95170): The continuing journal of Robert Anton Wilson's current ideas and opinions. From his co-authorship of **ILLUMINATUS!** he's developed vast interests in things outside of normal reality tunnels. In this issue he plugs jury nullification, looks at the latest in mind machines, examines the hysteria surrounding the McMartin preschool case, and reports on various other outre books and zines. (S-20t/MG)

**TRANET** #66 ($30/year from PO Box 567, Rangeley, ME 04970): Part of the increasing informational network, linking alternative technologies and organizations with those who wish to adopt them—or at the very least learn about them. This is a directory specializing in transformational ideas—the listing range from governing developments to regional networks (int'l) to energy systems to food and agriculture. And there's much more: a BBS which operates on a more direct, classified ad level and book recommendations for many of the topics. (S-15t/CG)

**TRANSITIONS ABROAD** Nov./Dec. 1990 ($15/5 issues from PO Box 344, Amherst, MA 01004): A magazine for people who want to combine travel with work or study—and so have a more rounded experience of another culture and country. This issue looks south from the US, with several fascinating articles on study options in the Amazonian rain forest. Responsible tourism and ecotourism are increasingly important topics here. (S-56t/MG)

**TRASH COMPACTOR** Vol. 2 #5 ($3.50 from 253 College St. #108, Toronto, ONT, M5T 1R5, CANADA): A zine of movies and other aspects of "our disposable culture". This issue focuses on John Ashley, who has had quite a career in the netherworld of the B Movies. There's also more on Basil Wolverton, some comics, video reviews, and plenty more. Extensive coverage in depth is their hallmark. (S-44t/MG)

**TRIBAL NOTES** Nov. 1990 (Donation, plus something short by or about the donator, from Clif Bennett, RR2, Hawkestone, ONT, L0L 1T0, CANADA): A stroll through Clif's life and world, which is a fascinating one full of radicals new and old and multicultural connections. In this issue he reports (tongue-in-cheek) on a plan to use newspapers as mulch, talks about ways of viewing the world, prints a story from 1947 and acquaints us with some more of his family of readers. Good yarns well-spun. (HL-16t/MG)

**TRIDENT** #56-57 ($35/yr from PO Box 666, Whitehall, PA 18052): The newsletter of the Embassy of SATAN, a group which stoutly maintains that "Satanism is not a religion". For them, it is more like skeptical materialistic self-interest. #56 opens up with a pastiche debate between representatives of various Satanist schools of thought (of course their mouthpiece wins), and goes on to review and denounce various other groups, while trying to explain some of the reasoning behind becoming an "embassy". (S-20/MG)

**TRIPE** #2 (25¢ & SASE from Greg Petix, 1323 N. Norton, Tucson, AZ 85719): A small collection of clippings, comics, and miscellaneous ranting. There's Prince William behaving like a little beast, a political party that wipes out its opponents, and en end of the world short story here. Lots of tension. (M-16r/MG)

☐**TRIPS** Vol. 1 #1 ($2.00 from 410 Richmond Street West, Suite 348, Toronto, Ontario, M5V 1X3, Canada): This is a brandy-new title from Lynne Shuttleworth, former co-editor of **SMASH**. Sub-titled, "A travel newsletter trying to be a magazine," these are travelogues from Lynne's various excursions from Toronto. She takes us on a tour through London, a night on the town in Oslo, cruising through New York State, and to the Reggae Heaven of Jamaica. Each trip is written from a personal perspective, much like a letter, which makes it even more fun. Somebody better send her travel contributions soon or else she's sure to run out and that would be a shame. (S-11/CG)

**TRUE TALES** (50¢ *CASH/Stamps* from No Joke Publications, PO Box 50454, Austin, TX 78763): More hazy recollections from the anonymous author's childhood. As he pushes back to the root of his memories of being abused he is finding rituals and multiple personalities. Very, *very* disturbing, shocking material. (M-20/MG)

**TRUTH SEEKER** Vol. 117 #3-5 ($20/yr from PO Box 2832, San Diego, CA 92112): A heavy-duty freethought publication that is outspokenly anti-religious. #3 is devoted to church and state seperation, arguing among other things that there should be no tax exemption for religious property and that religious arguments should not figure into laws regarding pregnancy and abortion. There's also a lengthy article on prostitution and the case for its legalization from Norma Jean Almodovar. #5 is their annual Fall issue on the drug problem. The lead article is on the use of ibogaine to suppress addiction to heroin and cocaine, a procedure which the FDA yet views as experimental. They also look at the religious freedom aspects of drugs and the medicinal and environmental arguments for marijuana legalization. (S-56t/MG)

**TUBER FUZZ** #2/3 ($1.50 from Martin Robaszewski, 130 New Road E-14, Parsippany, NJ 07054): This zine doesn't have too many original comics in it but it feels like it should. Martin loves the world of comics, is pretty particular about his likes and dislikes, and leaves enough room to talk about other things besides them—like the death of his cat, his outdated computer and Janet Jackson. It may be a bit young, but it has a good feel to it. (D-19/CG)

**TU RASSLIN RIOT** #2-3 ($3/4 issues from Brian Tramel, 1806 Self-Circle, Apt. B, Jonesboro, AR 72401): The print looks smaller everytime, but this is still fun to read. #3 has an interview with Bobby Jaggars this time, much about the Brody murder, announcements of the 2nd annual TU awards and lots of updating, gossip and general tromping through the whole genre make it lively and active. (M-43r/CG)

**TURNING THE TIDE** Vol. III #6 (50¢ from Boxholder, PO Box 1990, Burbank, CA 91507): Newsletter of PART, People Against Racist Terror, a grassroots group fighting racism in LA and elsewhere. Plenty of depressing news here, of racially-motivated attacks in LA, San Diego, and other Western cities. They also report on ways to fight back against all of this nonsense. (S-6r/MG)

☐**TWIN PEAKS OBSERVER** #1-2 (50¢ or two stamps from PO Box 6920, Alexandria, VA 22306): It was bound to happen and yes, here it is—the fansheet for TV's latest craze. #1 starts out more frivolous with gossip on the Log Lady's tragedy (her log was kidnapped) and TP's 900-number (call and hear Lucy). With "semi-positive" feedback, the editors have decided to continue this endeavor. #2 has notes on other David Lynch TV projects, TP's soundtrack and merchandise and...recipes for those glorious pies that Agent Cooper would die for. Also included was a Chutes 'N Ladders type TP game board—dice and markers not included. Copy is hard to read and print is sometimes barely readable. (S-2/CG)

**TWISTED** #11 ($1 from 11698 Howitzer Lane, Woodbridge, VA 22192): This superbly produced zine (the editor makes halftones in a printshop) is mostly action photos of young guys flying upside down over skate-ramps. There's not a lot of text; what there is mostly addresses for skateparks and contests. A few band pics and reviews round out the issue. (D-12/JR)

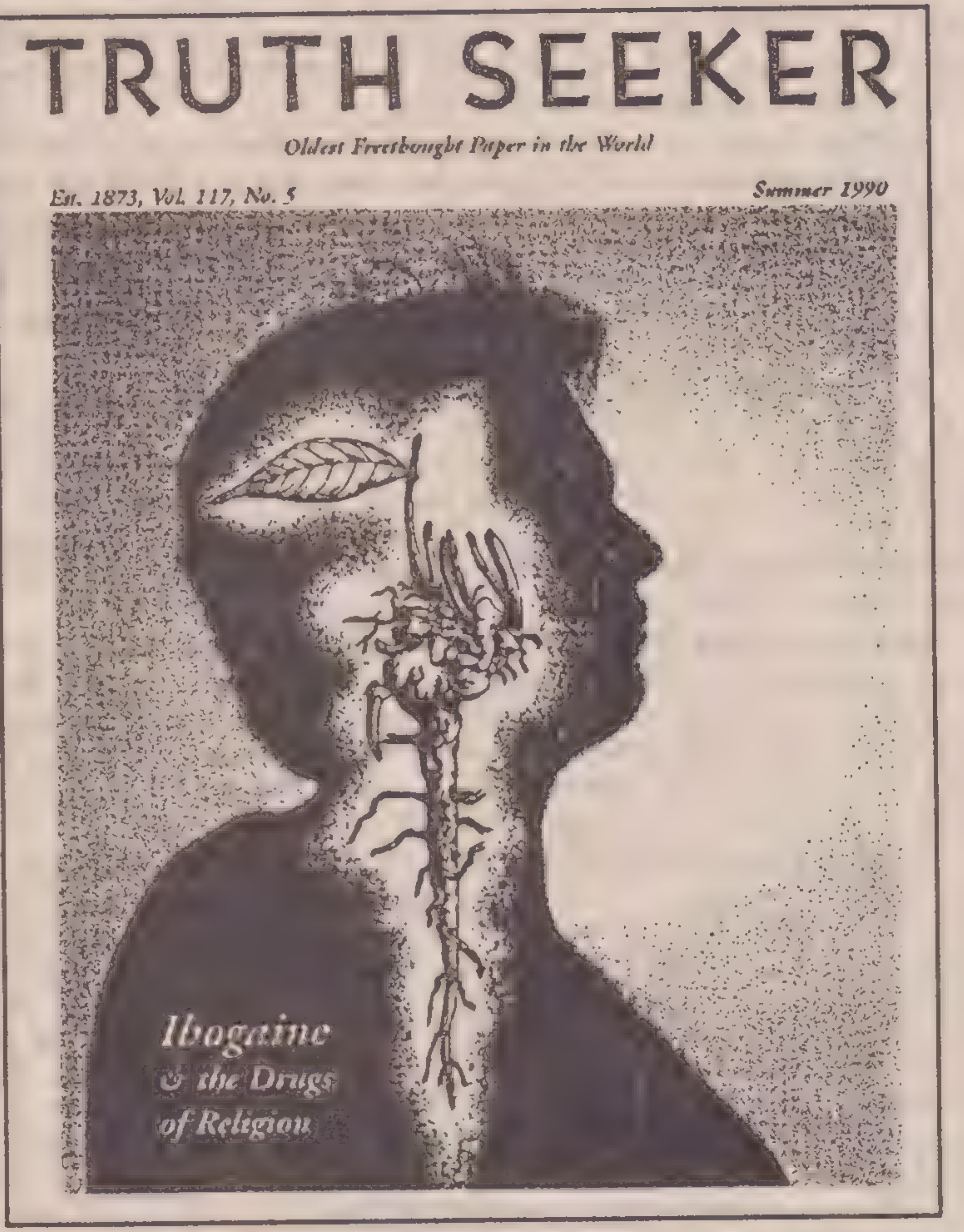
**TWISTED IMAGE** #22-23 ($1 from Ace Backwords, 1630 University Ave. #26, Berkeley, CA 94703): This is Ace Backwords' personal newsletter, reprinting all of his cartoons and big chunks of his writing too. The letters in #22 give further insight to his banning from the pages of **MRR**. #23 has great ranting mail and a page of cartoon characters on drugs. (S-8/MG)

☐**TWIT** ($5.00 from Excogitations, PO Box 6260, Pasadena, TX 77506): The acronym stands for Third World International Traveler, but it could still read **TWAT**, because that is what most of the editorial is about. This is a newsletter for the discriminating and sometimes indiscriminate traveler—giving information you won't find in Fodor's, such as how to procure good loving from many of the nubile natives in Manila and Bangkok, what scams to look out for, and solid advice on choosing the locales for your pleasure pumping. (S-8/CG)

**UFO** Vol.5 #6 ($3 from 1800 S. Robertson Blvd. Box 355, LA CA 90035): Well written and illustrated articles on pertinent topics. Crop-circles in England, what new ideas in propulsion technology could tell us about UFO's, an even-handed inquiry into whether the air force has been covertly testing their own UFO. Interesting material, presented with a modest and clarity that disarms criticism. (S-48t/JR)

**UNDERESTIMATED** #2 ($1 (?) from Denise Scilingo, 5406 Grand Ave., Western Springs, IL 60558): Personal comments and reviews of life from Denise, whose mother thinks the mailman will turn them into the police for publishing a zine. Stranger things have happened. In-depth interview with Steve Mar, a look at some out-of-the-way reading materials, record reviews and some guest columnists come aboard, too.

**THE UNICORN** Vol. XIII #8 ($1 (?) from 5616 Caladium, Dallas, TX 75230): A rather lightweight pagan zine that seems to be moving more heavily into reviewing material of late. They also print short bits of mythology from various cultures and basic introductions to subjects like Tarot or herbalism. (S-10t/MG)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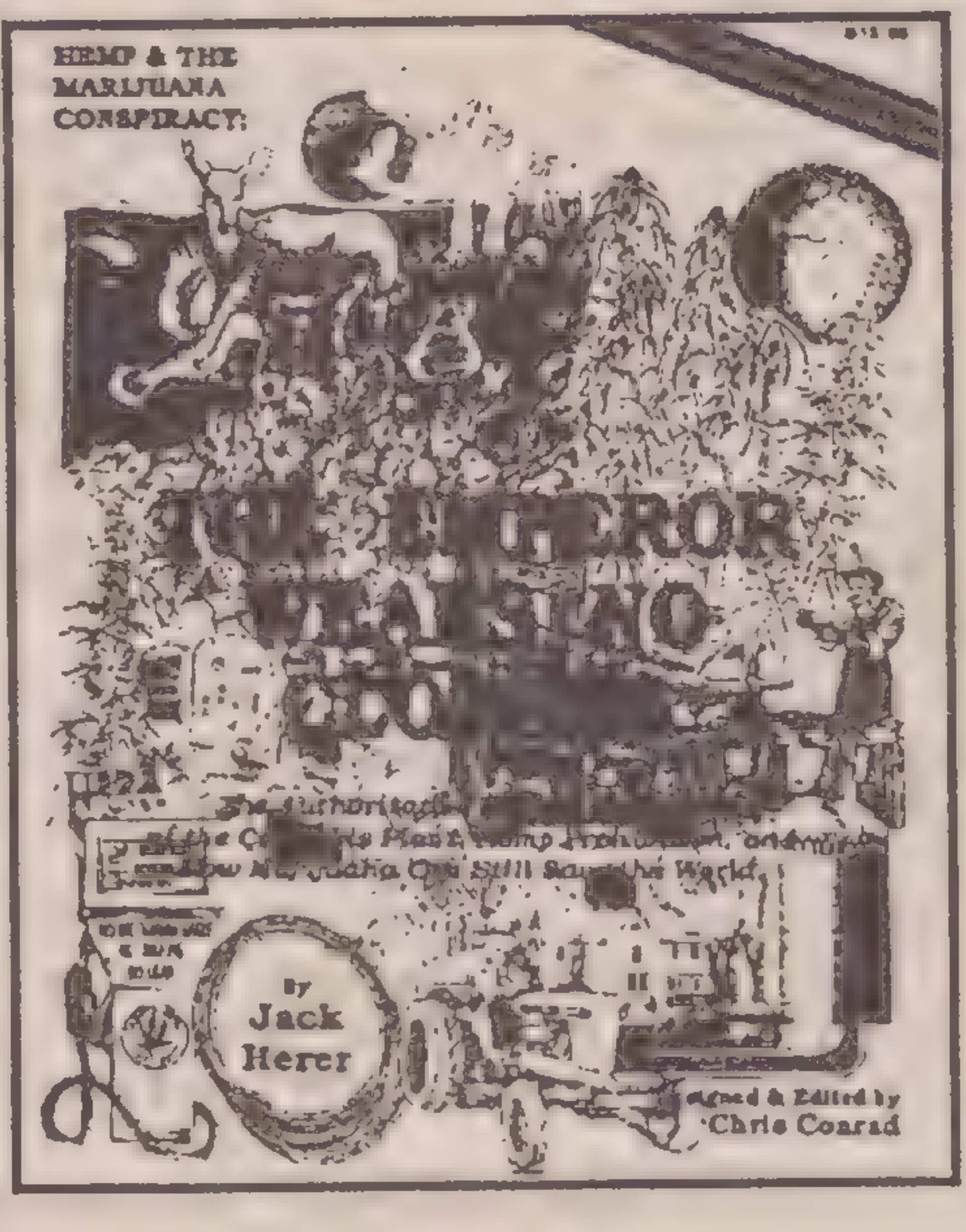
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# NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

The assaults against our religious freedoms and liberties have never been so great as they are today. The recent decision of the U.S. Supreme Court that banned Peyote as a Sacrament of the Native American Church and which established for the first time a lawful basis for "respecting an establishment of religion"—majority religions vs. minority religions—signals the dire peril that confronts our religious freedoms and liberties.

Central to our religious freedoms and liberties is our **"BODY PROPERTY RIGHTS'** which must be free from the tyranny of the political and religious states. It is this fundamental issue that underlies the most significant conflicts of our time: 1) the right of women to be mothers by choice; 2) the right of privacy to the expression of sexual affection and love among mutually consenting persons; 3) the right to ingest substances that promotes the psychological, religious and spiritual journeys of the individual and which do not bring harm to other persons; 4) the right to be free from "torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment" (genital mutilations) for religious, social or cultural reasons; and 5) the right to peacefully and humanely terminate one's life.

These are the five major projects that will be addressed by the **NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE** and your membership and support is requested. Your membership in the NLSCS which includes a subscription to ***The TRUTH SEEKER*** is $35.

Additional contributions are welcome.

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**UNIROD** #1 ($1 from K.G. Bradley, 4214B Filbert Ave., Atlantic City, NJ 08401): A zine of experimental writing and artwork. Most of the stories here seem to be cut-ups; they pretty much make no sense at all. Unfortunately this makes it hard to tell whether they are worth reading either. (S-10/MG)

**UNSETTLED** Vol. II #4 ($1 from Donald J. Morrison, PO Box 562, Columbia Station, OH 44028-0562): A personalzine which has procrastinated its way from being a monthly into something like a bimonthly. Don writes about participating in theatrical productions, and reviews a whole mess of movies he watched over the summer, including eleven featuring Jack Nicholson. He also gives out a recipe for stage blood which he found successful. (D-12r/MG)

**THE UPRIGHT OSTRICH** Vol. IX #9-10 ($25/yr from Peggy Poor, PO Box 11691, Milwaukee, WI 53211): A Constitutionalist zine which is defiantly critical of our government, seeing Bush's handling of the Iraq situation as a prelude to issuing in the dangerous New World Order. They're active in opposing the IRS and prison industries, and explore novel legal theories and perpetual motion with the same sense of uncovering suppressed knowledge. (S-24t/MG)

**UPTON TEA QUARTERLY** Vol. 1 #4 ($2/4 issues from Upton Tea Imports, PO Box 159, Upton, MA 01568): A combination tea fanzine and catalogue from a company that sells teas and related products by mail. This issue looks at classic Chinese teapots and traces the development of the tea ceremony in Japan to its earliest formalization. (S-6t/MG)

**USSR NEWS BRIEF** No. 8/9 1990 ($40/yr from Das Land Und Die Welt, eV, Schwanthalerstrasse 73, 8000 Munchen 2, GERMANY): An ongoing chronicle of human rights news from within the USSR, where despite *glasnost* and *perestroika* some folks are still being persecuted. Samisdat publishing, unauthorized meetings, and political protests still draw a bit of official heat, and the details (as many as can be ascertained) are always here. (D-8r/MG)

**UTNE READER** #42 ($24/6 issues from 1624 Harmon Pl., Minneapolis, MN 55403): This zine of collected news and articles for the alternative-minded person is still catering well to its audience, with a special section in this issue on divorce. Other topics include green consumerism, junk mail pro and con, challenging (but not *too* challenging) music and the Post-Cold War World. A handy selection of mildly alternative views in one place. (S-144t/MG)

**VAMPIRE ARCHIVES** #13-14 ($1 (?) from 2926 W. Leland, Chicago, IL 60625): Everything you ever wanted to know about vampires in the modern media, and then some. They track movies and books and zines, providing brief reviews and pointers to new vampiric activity. They also reprint much vampire stuff from other media. (S-22/MG)

**VDT NEWS** Vol. VII #5 ($87/6 issues from PO Box 1799, Grand Central Sta., New York, NY 10163): A magazine for those seriously concerned about the health effects of video display terminals and similar computer equipment. Though radiation is the sexy topic these days, they also cover repetitive strain injuries, eyestrain, and so on. This is their annual product directory issue, with everything from radiation test equipment to ergonomically designed chairs. (S-16t/MG)

□**VENTER** #1 ($1 *CASH* from 25 Godeus, San Francisco, CA 94110): A new literary zine which seems to be overly enamored of cut-ups and other low-sense forms of prose and poetry. Much of the cutting-edge stuff is simply meaningless; draw back a bit and there are well-executed stories from Tony Lamontia and Danny Ray Leopard, who apparently understand that outrageous subject matter need not be aped by outrageous stuyle. (D-24t/MG)

**VETERANS FOR PEACE JOURNAL** #14 ($15/4 issues from PO Box 3881, Portland, ME 04104): Sincere peace efforts from US veterans—over 2000 of them as of this issue. In addition to urging peace on policymakers in the US, they're actively connecting with similar organizations worldwide. Plenty of action here, and many resources for those traveling similar paths. (S-32t/MG)

**VIDEO WATCHDOG** #2 ($4.50 from PO Box 5283, Cincinnati, OH 45205-0283): Intensive video guide for the horror/gore/sf/weirder tracts of film genres. Besides reviews, there are in depth articles on cutting room floor comparisons, videographies and interviews (this month is Paul Nagel of *Brainiac* fame). Sometimes the content goes a little too far in depth, as with the many-paged analysis of *Twin Peaks*, which reads like a pop psych text. C'mon, sometimes a cigar is just a cigar. Also a good source for rare and retitled videos. (D-64t/CG)

□**VIDEOOZE** #1 ($3 from Bob Sargent, PO Box 9911, Alexandria, VA 22304): A snappy and well-designed addition to the world of horror video fanzines. Bob opens with a look at films based, however loosely on the Inquisition in particular and witch hunting in general. There's a section of lengthy reviews of little gems like *Buried Alive*, and plenty of photos. A guide to the revolting. (S-28t/MG)

**VIRGINIA LIBERTY** Vol. 6 #4/5 ($15/yr from PO Box 28263, Richmond, VA 23228): Libertarian news and views for folks in Virginia. The state party appears to be doing OK, though nothing to write home about. This issue, received in late October, focuses on the fall elections and the LP candidates. (T-4t/MG)

**VITAL INFORMATION** #3 (SASE & cash/stamps donation from Tim Maddog, PO Box 791377, New Orleans, LA 70179-1377): A zine of alternative politics and marginal interests. Tim has a lot to say in this issue about the need to fight the system and David Duke. There's some crackpot conspiracy theories, subliminal advertising, and reprinted hoopla too. "Question authority - even your own!!". (D-20r/MG)

**VOICES FROM SPIRIT** Vol. 4 #3 ($4/6 issues from PO Box 5155, Ellsworth, ME 04605): News from beyond the grave, as well as from this side. The proprietors here are in touch with numerous entities of one sort or another; this issue has an article from a dweller in Asgard and an interview with the Angel of Death. There are also articles on topics such as the basics of the Spiritist faith. (S-8r/MG)

**THE VOLUNTARYIST** #46-47 ($3 from PO Box 1275, Gramling, SC 29348): A newsletter for those interested in libertarian political theory. Most fascinating in #46 is Robert Nisbet's tracing of all the ways that states have tried to disguise their true nature over the years. Charles Curley's iconoclastic musings are fun as usual. #47 has a fine article on the way a free market could provide for weights and measures. (S-8t/MG)

□**VOODOO EPILEPTIKKERE** #1 (kr.10 from Sverre Kristenses, Agtrupvel 109 1.t.v., DK-6000 Kolding Denmark): Sex, Vold, Muzak, Blood & Comix constitute this mostly Dutch zine—which means shit, blood, comics, Wm. Burroughs, Baudelaire and band interviews. Your ususal nasty fanzine fare.

□**V.V.I.P. NEWSLETTER** Nov. 1990 (On request (?) from Rob Stegall, Farmington Correctional Center, 1012 W. Columbia, Farmington, MO 63640): The initials stand for Vietnam Veterans In Prison, which is why I am unsure about the price—they could probably use donations but may not be able to get them. The newsletter features reprints from all over about the overlap between veterans' and prisoners' affairs, and some hopes for more humane systems in the future. (L-8t/MG)

**WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS** Vol. 2 #9-10 ($1 from PO Box 3511, Madison, WI 53704-0511): The official newsletter of the "Sensationalist Workers of the World", a batch of left-wing labor activists using humor to fight for union and worker rights. Giant octopoids, strange chaotic clowns, and tabloid style headlines are business as usual here. (S-4t/MG)

**WALKING-STICK NOTES** #20 ($1 (?) from Cecil Curtis, 4051 East Olive Rd. #231, Pensacola, FL 32514): A quarterly for the collector or appreciator of walking sticks, canes, and similar appurtenances. Cecil rambles his way through current news, letters from those who make sticks, and pictures of choice items. An outpost of a hobby most people don't even dream of. (S-4/MG)

□**WALL** #6 (Send art to meersstraat 41, 9308 Gijzegem, BELGIUM): This is a mail art assemblage, put together from participants' works. The best way to get a copy is to make 50 copies of your own mail art, and send them in. You'll get the finished assembly back in the mail. This issue is cleverly packaged to hold a loose batch of paper together into some sort of whole, and contains an international spectrum of work. (D-20/MG)

**W.A.M.M.** Vol. 8 #12-Vol. 9 #2 ($30/yr from 3255 Hennepin Ave. S #125-B, Minneapolis, MN 55408): Women Against Military Madness actually have their hands in quite a number of socially responsible pies. In addition to demanding an end to US military intervention in the Mideast, they come out against poverty and garbage burning, and for native Americans. There seems to be quite a network of activists out there in the Twin Cities. (S-8t/MG)

**THE WASHINGTON REPORT ON MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS** Vol. IX #5-6 ($2 from PO Box 53062, Wash. DC 20009): Styling itself a non-partisan production by American Statesmen, this is a journal of savage but calculating anti-Zionism. Israel's "yes men" in Congress are listed and blamed, with her mere existence, for the region's every present destabilisation in a series of affronts to history and even geography. The advertisements constitute a reference library of PLO propaganda. Your petrodollars at work. The situation in the Persian Gulf and the Intifada remain the highest profile issues here, with reprints and original material. (S-86t/JR/MG)

□**THE WAWONA NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS** #8 ($5/yr from PO Box 2131, Wawona, CA 95389): Wawona is a small town entirely surrounded by Yosemite National Park, giving it some rather unique problems—like worrying about whether the government is going to try to take them over. This issue has news on the latest round of planning and a fascinating (& harrowing) story about a firefighter brought in to fight the latest round there. There' also standard neighborhood paper stories about things like schools and libraries. (S-8t/MG)

□**THE WEASEL HELP MONTHLY** Vol. 3 #5 ($20/yr from FURO, PO Box 844, Elon College, NC 27244): The journal of the Ferret Unity and Registration Organization, a group fighting to convince others that ferrets are safe and friendly pets. Much of this is concerned with the legal situation, from tracking down specific ferret bans to challenging the research they are based on. Veterinary topics and reminiscences about particular pets are also included. (S-32t/MG)

**WE ARE THE WEIRD** Vol. VI #6-15 ($19.95/26 issues from PO Box 2002, Dallas, TX 75221-9702): Movies and social coverage from the ever-amusing Joe Bob Briggs. In #10, he comes to the defense of Andrew Dice Clay, pointing out that ostracism and censorship are not exactly the American way. He also proposes new TV series for the Iraqis to appear in. #13 is more fun than ever, with good reviews of a few real low-budget flicks including the new classic *Doctor Death*. (S-8t/MG) In issue 7 the author finds himself a bit out of his depth as he crudely pontificates about *Nightbreed:* homing in on the film's humorous trash aspects Joe Bob misses its weird beauty. In 8 there's a distasteful account of the life of a death-house lawyer. Unsubtle, opinionated, newsy and amusingly vulgar. (S-8t/JR)

□**THE WEEKLY NEWS** #14-15 ($1 from PO Box 6000, Suite 222, Amherst, MA 01002): A collective desktop-published leftist newsletter. Both of these issues have things directed against the possibility of a war in the Mideast. There's also a strong concern for ecology, and a serialized paper on the impact of nuclear testing on the environment. Of interest is their distribution policy, which encourages readers to make copies and pass them on. (S-24t/MG)

**WEEKLY WORLD NOOSE** #2 ($1.50 *CASH/Stamps* from 333B N. Park, Tucson, AZ 85719): This morbid little zine celebrates the fine art of suicide, seeing it as a rational, and even aesthetic, response to a predictable and miserable life. There are articles on the noose, copycat suicides in Italy, great sports suicides, and more. One wonders how long it will be in operation; will the editor follow his own prescription for dealing with the world? (S-12t/MG)

**WE THE PEOPLE** #47 (Contact Michael Wolff, PO Box 704, South Houston, TX 77587-0704): An amateur press association devoted to political debate. I suspect we may be coming up on a renaissance for these pages; they could use some new members, and with the current state of the political world, from Berlin to Baghdad, this is a prime time to get interested. Animal rights, the Gulf war, affirmative action and AIDS are among the many topics people here are discussing. (S-74/MG)

**WHISPERS OF ISCANDER** #14 ($1? from PO Box 515942, Dallas, TX 7251-5492): Mostly a listing of Animation fan groups around the country, this included an exuberant account of the first National Animation Convention, which hosted many celebrity animators and was enlivened by ice-cube fights, gummi-worm hurling, fun with ashtrays, and reprimands by hotel staff. (S-10t/JR)

**WHITE LIGHT** Vol.1 #4 (on request from White Light, 556 Atwells Ave., Providence, RI 02906): New Age bumpf from White Light books, mostly ads and a few brief articles by people who work at the shop. Metaphysical vagaries. (S-24t/JR)

**WICKED WOMEN** Vol. 1 #11 ($6 & Age Statement from PO Box 305, Redfern, Sydney 2016, AUSTRALIA): That's the domestic price for this glossy that proudly proclaims "Dyke Decadence" on its cover, so better send a bit more if you want air mail to the States. It's full of stories aimed at women who know what they want and aren;t ashamed of it, as well as news on the local leather scene, mail from readers, some photos, and other goodies. (S-40t/MG)

**THE WILD FOODS FORUM** Vol. 1 #9-10 ($1.25 from Deborah Duchon, 4 Carlisle Way NE, Atlanta, GA 30308): A small zine about the joys of foraging for your food. They review books and reprint recipes on the subject, and keep close track of events and seminars. There's also an interesting story about black walnuts in the ninth issue. (S-8t/MG)

□**THE WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVE TIMES** Vol. 2 #2-4 ($6/yr from PO Box 49245, Austin, TX 78765): A lesbian journal of articles, prose and essays. Some are heartfelt, like the piece by a former battered lesbian and some are militant such as the article on the police AIDS hysteria. These are thoughtful and informative pieces, however, one finds it hard to see past the anger at times. Looking forward to seeing more. (HL-25t/CG)

**THE WONDERFUL WORLD NEWS** Vol. 6 #9 ($10/yr from Ringer, 2525 Arapahoe Ave. #E4173, Boulder, CO 80302): You never know what's going to be in this one, other than that it will be light and fun. #9 is directed at television, starting off with reminiscences on (not very) responsible viewing habits and closing with bizarre soap-opera plot summaries. (S-4t/MG)

**THE WONDERLAND TIMES** Vol. II #11-12 ($5/6 issues from PO Box 20794, Baton Rouge, LA 70894): A fine paper of news and opinion. #11 leads off with some heavy stuff opposing the war in the Mideast, and later on has a depressing survey of violence around the world. There's pages on the good uses for dope, and as always a jaundiced eye turned towards David Duke. (S-16t/MG)

□**WORKS IN PROGRESS** Sept.-Nov. 1990 ($20/yr from TCRC, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507): The newspaper of the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition, this one features local activists writing alongside columns from folks like Jesse Jackson & Alexander Coburn. There's a lot of war opposition in the September issue, some notes on how the State should perhaps be investing, and appalling sentiments on poverty from the guy who runs Dominos. Union organizing, state investing in Exxon, and help for disabled Americans are just a few of the other issues addressed. (T-16t/MG)

**WORLD PERSPECTIVES** Vol. 1 #8-9 ($17.50/12 issues from People's News Service, PO Box 3074, Madison, WI 53704-0074): Alternative news from shortwave broadcasts. They take "alternative" seriously, and as a result many of the stories here are from a more or less "left" perspective. #8 opens with extensive coverage of the Iraq crisis, including views from Moscow, Havana and Paris. Central and Latin America also gets much attention, with a story on the coming independence Plebiscite in Puerto Rico being most fascinating. (HL-32t/MG)

**WORLD POLITICS** Vol.1 #3 ($10/yr from 2425B Channing Way #569, Berkeley, CA 94704): Progressive politics from around the world, primarily concerned with those Green, Communist and otherwise leftists outside the US. Reporting takes us from Zimbabwe to Mongolia and discusses platforms, elections, and sometimes collapsing governments. I especially enjoyed the series of internationally acquired political cartoons and hearing other voices of dissent. (S-26/CG)

**WORLD RAINFOREST REPORT** Vol.6 #4 ($1 from Rainforest Action Network, 301 Broadway, Suite A, San Francisco CA 94133): Progress report and bulletin board of the worldwide grassroots movement, this has the latest on blowpipes vs. bulldozers in South America, the horrors of Teak harvesting in Burma, and what ecolegislation is in the works. (S-8t/JR)

**"WATCH THE CLOSING DOORS!"**

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**WORLD WAR II REVIEW** #4 ($20/6 issues *CASH/MO* from Broadhead Publishing, Broadhead, Castleshaw, Delph, Oldham OL3 5LZ, ENGLAND): What with this being fifty years since a lot of things, this publication is devoted to examining the English experience in World War II. This issue is largely devoted to the Blitz, with notes on an American ace who flew in the Battle of Britain and several stories on life in the bomb shelters. Looking for more reminiscences to publish. (A4-16t/MG)

**WRESTLING CHATTERBOX** Sept.-Oct. 1990 ($2 from Georgiann Markopoulos, 23-44 30th Dr., Astoria, NY 11102): A zine of gossip and chat about wrestling and wrestlers. Little bits of news, a few match results, photos and clippings join forces here with personal notes on meeting various wrestling people. The October issue has a strong listing of other wrestling newsletters and bulletins. (S-20/MG)

**WRESTLING OBSERVER NEWSLETTER** 9/17/90-11/19/90 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228): The original weekly no-frills newsletter of the wrestling industry. The focus is international, with much of the October 1 issue, for example, being about Japanese promotions. 10/8 reports on a couple of 30-year anniversary bouts in that country. 10/15 considers the current business troubles of Titan in a wider context. November 5 leads with a review and rundown on the Halloween Havoc '90 show. 11/19 has the amusing news of wrestler Jesse Ventura being elected mayor of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. (S-10r/MG)

**WRESTLING PERSPECTIVE** Vol. 1 #8-9 ($1 from PO Box 401, Camillus, NY 13031-0401): #8 takes a break from their usual analysis format to do all interviews. They talk with wrestler SD Jones, the principals of the new UWF, and trainer Larry Sharpe. #9 looks at the prospects for a revitalization of the WWF, and has a Rodney Leighton piece on racism in wrestling which sounds a cautionary note. (S-14t/MG)

**WRESTLING THEN & NOW** #9-10 ($1.25 from Evan Ginzburg, PO Box 471, Oakland Gardens Sta., Flushing, NY 11364): A wrestling bulletin for the fan looking for something new, er, well, old: a look into the past years of wrestling greats. Folks reminisce about the classic matches, try to rate the all time greats, and remember how they got into being fans of the sport. Judging by the response plenty of writers were looking for this sort of outlet. Rodney Leighton contributes a freewheeling review column here as well. #10 comments on how important this zine has become to the editor and adds a fanzine section as well. Hope the third date went as well as the second. (S-10/MG/CG)

□**WRINKLED DISTANCE** #2 (50¢ (?) from PO Box 57549, Los Angeles, CA 90057): A guide to what's cool and what's not in the vicinity of Hollywood, from a loudmouthed punkoid point of view. They rate highly the Angeline billboard and stenciled art, downgrading fancy NYC graffiti and Tiki art. Fashion run amok. (HS-12t/MG)

**WRITE NOW!** #5-6 ($1.50 from Right Here Publications, PO Box 1014, Huntington, IN 46750): A writing newsletter hole-punched for a digest-sized notebook. Each issue is a medley of exercises to provoke your writing, contests, a bit of market news, and ideas on how to write better. Generally they stay away from the mechanics of selling and concentrate on writing well. (D-28/MG)

□**THE WUG ISS** and **EXCPHERMEDIA** ($1 (?) from PO Box 36, Libertyville, IL 60048): Bits and pieces of art designed to rearrange some brain matter. Some heavy hitters here, including Malok and John Bennett. Some clever collages, weird prints, and even a call for anarchists (you know you're out there). Poetry interspersed throughout. In **EXCPHERMEDIA** we find more to ruminate on, such as the existential nothingness of what we call modern life. I liked the comics collage towards the front, which represents that. (S-11/CG)

□**X** #1 ($1 (?) from The Collective, PO Box 350935, Tampa, FL 33695): A new zine from a generally left perspective. It opens with an editorial "US Out of the Middle East" which does not seem all that sophisticated. Inside there are words on the place of women in today's society, native rights, health care in Haiti, and so on. Some views not found in the mainstream here, but no big stretches to new ideas. (S-12r/MG)

**XENOPHILE** ($1.25 from PO Box 1088, Station M, Calgary Alberta, T2P 2K9): SFzine with mostly book reviews, this issue listing the results of the '90 Oprix Casper awards, and a number of playful columns. Interesting article on how to turn a cardboard box into a space helmet to get respect at the nnext con. (S-8t/JR)

**X MAG** vol.1 #4-5 ($5/6 issues from PO Box 1077, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1077): Yet another locally-free arts paper. #4 has humor, reviews of Revolting Cocks and Jane Siberry, pointless comics &c. #5 has urban legends, Bob Mould, and comparative reviews of moist towelettes. Someday we'll look on these cultural shoppers as a characteristic of the late 80's. (T-12t/JR/MG)

□**XYY** #1 ($2 from John F. Kelly, 82 Kimball Ave., Yonkers, NY 10704): After a considerable absence, Kelly is back with a new line-up of stellar fame. We've got the first printing of Bob Black's "Last Mike Hammer Thriller," followed by a knock-off of **I, THE JURY** by Thom Metzger...hardboiled detective stories are in vogue now. Also included is the review of the projectile that made its way to Black's house last year and an afterword in the truest sense by the singular Al Ackerman. Kelly should keep it up—literally and figuratively—for these names. (S-36t/CG)

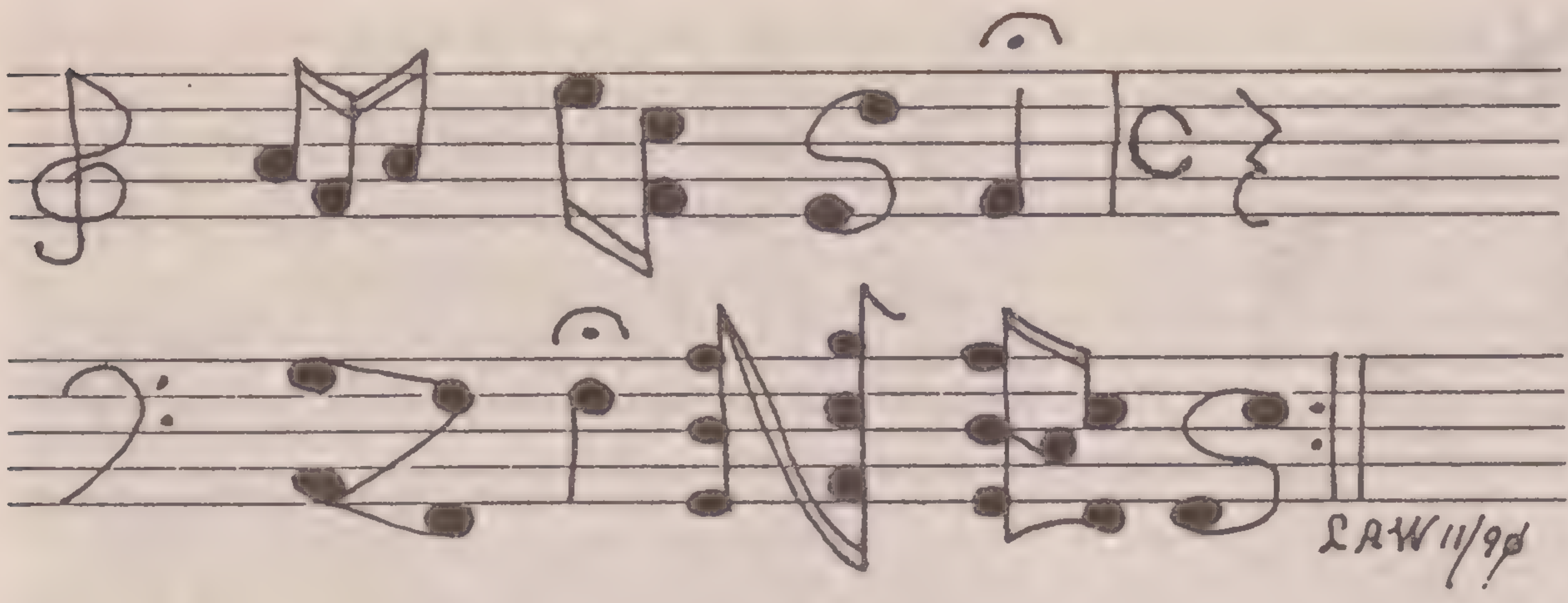
**YAWN** #18-20 ($10/25 issues from PO Box 162, Oakdale, IA 52319): With #18, **YAWN** announces the intention to move beyond the Art Strike to cultural criticism in general. A pair of manifestoes lead off this issue, one for "Counterrevolutionary Communism" and one for "Gender Strike". Also included were a pile of disturbing stickers and a partial bibliography of **SMILE** magazines. #20 has some words from Stewart Home, the person who called the current manifestation of the Art Strike. (S-2t/MG)

**YELLOW SILK** #34 ($6 from PO Box 6374, Albany, CA 94706): A continuing exploration of the world of the erotic in all its guises. While #34 features several stories dealing with hair and its mysteries, for me the highlight is the series of prints scattered throughout by Morton Levin. They meld the human body with plants, animals, fruits, bones, artifacts—a hallucinatory feast, a wonderful examination of form and function. Poetry, letters, and a few music reviews (new with this issue) also make their appearance. (S-52t/MG)

□**YOUTH GREENS ANTI-RACIST BULLETIN** #1 ($1 (?) from 160 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington, VT 05401): A collection of news stories about reasonably well-publicized racist news. There's the David Duke election and the Tom Metzger trial, for example, taking up most of the space. Needs some contacts and suggestions for opposition in addition to horrified reporting. (HL-4t/MG)

**ZENDIK FARM** #42 ($10/yr *CASH/MO to Cary Roberts* from Zendik Farm, PO Box 1146, Boulevard, CA 92005): This is a special edition of the Zendik magazine, all art and poetry and song lyrics, speaking to the creative side rather than using the rational arguments they usually employ. Revolutionary action, animal rights, tribalism, and love are among their hottest buttons right now. (S-64/MG)

**ZOIKS** #8 ($1 from PO Box 33561 Raleigh, NC 27636): A very wonderful literary humor-zine with excellent cartoons, twisted tales, aphorisms by Niditch, and all manner of strange wit, unified perhaps by the implication that this is a very funny is somewhat apalling world to inhabit. A fun read, andd certainly one to watch. (D-14t/JR)



**1/1** Vol. 6 #2 ($4 from The Just Intonation Network, 535 Stevenson St., San Francisco, CA 94103): I lack the musical theory to fully understand this one, but the basic idea is simple enough: that there are musical scales different from the one our western ears are accustomed to which make a lot more sense mathematically and aesthetically. The writers here explore these scales, their use in music, the cueing of the ear to understand them, their production via synthesizer, and much more. For the serious experimentalist. (S-16t/MG)

☐**12 O'CLOCK JULY** #1-2 ($3 from Kip Brown, 208 S. Clay St., Sturgis, MI 49091): A zine devoted to a nostalgic look at some of the Michigan bands from the Sixties that didn't make it big outside of their own local area. #1 has Unrelated Segments and The French Church; #2 features the Rationals and The Falcons. Includes reviews of 45s, label pix, newspaper clippings and press photos. (S-32/MG)

**THE AFFILIATE** Oct.-Nov. 1990 ($25/yr from Peter Riden, 777 Bard Rd., RR #1, Vankleek Hill, ONT, K0B 1R0, CANADA): A networking music zine that does a lot of promoting of positive energy and events from concerts to naturist weekends. Peter invites people to write about music and life, and publishes a guide to dozens of fanzines as well as plenty of color pictures. The November issue has several pieces on freedom of expression and as always plenty of interior color. (S-32t/MG)

**AFTERSHOCK** #4 ($1 from Eric Rudnick, PO Box 232, Pennington, NJ 08534): A zine that hovers on the borders between punk rock and indie comics, reviewing some of both. This of course makes it hard to decide where to put their review, but so it goes. They feature some original art and a best and worst band name contest in addition to reviews. (S-18/MG)

**THE ALTERED MIND** #6 ($1 *Cash or Stamps* from PO Box 1083, Claremont, CA 91711): Some pretty classy typesetting and layout here—mostly about current culture and music. Interviews with Halo and **LOVE AND ROCKETS**' Hernandez brothers (that's the comic, not the band) are here, plus lots of music (live and otherwise) reviews. The fiction and poetry are for the most part enigmatic and seem to be lost in a music zine of this nature, but no matter, for on the whole this is put together well. Check out the "Dark Cirlces" section, wherein the more "particular subcultures" are explored. (S-15t/CG)

**ALTERNATIVE PRESS** #31-32 ($4 from 1451 W. 112th St. #1, Cleveland, OH 44102): Music coverage in a slick cover that runs (in #31) from Nine Inch Nails and Nitzer Ebb to The Chills and the Breeders. They do mainly feature stories, with a few reviews and some columns by cool folks like Jack Rabid and Andrea Enthal tucked inside. This issue is notable for a letter replying to someone who slags them for featuring too many big names. #32 includes Sonic Youth, Psychic TV, Steel Pole Bathtub and Ultra Vivid Scene. (O-78t/MG)

**THE ALTERNATIVE VIEWPOINT** Vol. 1 #2 ($1 from PO Box 32327, Washington, DC 20007): Mostly music, though they do run one rather avant-garde story, some artwork and a sexually-explicit PSA encouraging condom use. Musically, the best bit was the interview with Mike Ness, who comes off as a sort of cool loser trying to make good. Also the Ledge, live Michelle Shocked review, and more. (S-36r/MG)

**THE ALTERNATIVE VOICE** ($1 *CASH/Stamps* from PO Box 25125, Tempe, AZ 85285-5125): A fast pass through the music scene and social issues, with an eye towards censorship concerns. The Customers pop in for a brief interview and there are articles on a couple of pirate radio stations. (D-8r/MG)

**AMOK** #10 (DM 3.50 from Fred Hopf, Schlangentalerweg 20, 6702 Bad Durkheim, GERMANY): A mostly-German hardcore zine with a few random reviews in English. They talk to Samiam, PVC, Powerhouse, Necracedia and more here. There's a Special section of comics reviews and plenty of photos too. (A4-64t/MG)

**...AND I FEEL LIKE AN ALARM CLOCK** #5 (3 stamps from Allen Salyer, PO Box 1551, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1551): This started out as a Throwing Muses zine and still focuses on that band, but has branched out to nearby tributaries of the same musical stream. The Breeders, His Name is Alive, and Babes in Toyland all creep in here. There's discographies and bibliographies as well as photos and interviews. (D-20r/MG)

☐**ANDROGYNY MEETS** (Shinji Suzuki, 8-1014, 8-1-35, Kokuryo-Cho, Chofu-shi, Tokyo 182, JAPAN): I'm pretty far asea on this; can't even figure out what two issue numbers I have. Not too surprising, actually, since 95% of the text is in Japanese. The evidence of the other 5% suggests that they're about industrial and experimental music, including groups like The Haters and A Grumh. (S-50/MG)

☐**ANKLE BITE** #10 ($1 from Chris McCaw, 1498 Wright Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94087): A combination music and skatezine with lots of photos (and some other stuff—like comparative ratings of bacon cheeseburgers in this issue). There's a serious interview with Carcass and a silly one with Danzig. Real nice layout job and arty feel. (HL-28t/MG)

☐**ARISTILLUS** #6 (IRCs to Apdo. Correos 971, 11480 Jerez, Cadiz, SPAIN): An all-Spanish music zine which, unlike most of the European music zines we get, seems to focus on music from its own continent. Djam Karet, Minimun Vital, Franc Albir and Galahad are a few of the names here—all unfamiliar to me, but perhaps sufficient to give cognoscenti an idea of the coverage. (D-42t/MG)

☐**ASBESTOSIS** #1 ($2 from Phil, 7 Woodside, Madeley, Nr. Crewe, Cheshire, CW39HA, ENGLAND): Actually, this is only sort of new, rising from the ashes of the now-defunct X magazine. It's a punk and stuff zine that works in a lot of fine print, although spotty copying makes some of it tough to get through. Friends of Betty, Jeffreys Velvet Jacket, Silverfish and Fudgetunnel are among the attractions in this issue, along with weird things clipped from the British press. (D-48r/MG)

**THE ATHENS RECORD** Vol.1 #6 ($1.50 from 330 Clover St., Athens, GA 30606): Outwardly an R.E.M. fanzine, with some other home bands discussed as well. This issue follows the activities of the various members of the Athens band, plus news of upcoming projects. Interesting note: apparently R.E.M. gave permission to have "Stand" used as a theme song for a TV show, but refused to have "The End Of The World" used for a commercial. At least some integrity remains. (S-6/CG)

**AUTOGRAPHS FOR THE SICK** ($1 (?) from Scott Russell, PO Box 111, Wilmore, KY 40390-0111): This is centered in new music and Christianity and their overlap. The best article this time around was "Sodom in retrospect: Reflections of a Christian College graduate", arguing that it was a worthwhile experience. There are a batch of reviews, strange graphics and a centerfold essay on the Cornerstone festival. (S-8r/MG)

**BACKLASH** Oct.-Nov. 1990 ($9/yr from 4128 Fremont Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98103): Despite the fact that they've been in business for a long time, this paper keeps finding more bands to cover. In October it's Coffin Break, visiting dignitaries, L7, Sadhappy and Modern Fabrics who get the nod. Record reviews and notes from the scene keep up the image of a vibrant musical city. In November their lead article is on the Melvins. (T-12t/MG)

**BACTERIA OF DECAY #5** (75¢ from 63 Lennox Ave., Buffalo, NY 14226): A little punk zine that's growing and even starting to thrive. Besides music and show and zine reviews, this issue has a SF scene report. There's interviews with Jawbox and Stand To Reason and a great anti-consumerism cover plus ranting editorial. (D-16r/MG)

**BAD TOAD #4** (50¢ or two stamps from PO Box 2614, Station A, Champaign, IL 61825): A half handwritten, half typeset zine of modern music and reviews which walks a "thin line between local music and punk rock weirdness." Also reviews and interviews with clubowners and the Champaign area and rants by the various, effusive editors. (S-16/CG)

**BALLOON RIDE #2** (75¢ from Karl Hendricks, 813 Romine Ave., Port Vue, PA 15133): Record reviews, interview with the self-obsessed members of Wimpfactor 14, some meaningless poetry and a few zine reviews. The low (high?) point was the WF14 vomiting story—which shows the teen-tone of this number. (D-26t/JR)

**BANZAI** 4th Anniversary Preview ($8/12 issues from PO Box 7522, Overland Park, KS 66207): This is a special shorty edition to let people know what this Midwest loud music tabloid is up to in the way of four years on celebrations. They've got a batch of events scheduled, featuring folks like Jeff Scheetz, who makes the cover here. (T-8t/MG)

**THE BEAT** Vol. 9 #5 ($3.50 from Bongo Productions, PO Box 65856, Los Angeles, CA 90065): A music mag devoted to world beat and reggae music, with far-flung correspondents covering Africa, South America, the Caribbean and elsewhere. This issue has major reporting on Sunsplash '90, Johnny Clarke, and lots more. Deeply committed to their subject and overflowing with new and old groups alike. (S-66t/MG)

**BEATLEFAN** Vol. 12 #4 ($3 from The Goody Press, PO Box 33515, Decatur, GA 30003): A zine for those who are still hopelessly in love with the Beatles. This issue has plenty of McCartney touring (with more promised for next time), plus the usual batch of trivia, bootleg reviews, current news related to the Fab Four, and so on. (S-34t/MG)

**BELOW MY WINDOW LURKS MY HEAD #3** (2 stamps from Allen Salyer, PO Box 1551, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1551): A Pixies fanzine which features all manner of clippings and photos. There are also accounts of concerts, discographies, and the other expected fanzine appurtenances. (D-16r/MG)

☐**BLACK LEATHER TIMES** ($1 (?) from Amelia G., 2905 Piney Grove Ct., Fairfax, VA 22031): A little music scene deal that seems mostly interested in printing things left out of other zines. They give bits of transcription cut from interviews, punk fashion tips, and how to tell whether a tattoo is real in this issue. Pretty in-groupy. (D-12t/MG)

**BLAHBLAHBLAH** Vol.3 #2 (Free from KRUX 91.5, Box 30001-NMSU, Las-Cruces, NM 88003-0001): The monthly music and culture mag from New Mexico State University's radio station. Sound and culture coverage, with editorials ranging from a hypothetical draft situation, to comedian Rich Hall, to an interview with Anything Box. (O-10t/CG)

**BLITZ #303-310** (75$00 each plus IRCs? from Blitz, Rua Sacadura Cabral, 26, Dafundo, 1495 Lisbon, PORTUGAL): This weekly music tabloid keeps presenting news on the wide range of music available to the Portuguese listening public, including mainstream rock, vanguard pop, dance music, and contemporary Portuguese groups like Madredeus and Mata-Ratos. Blitz is a professional magazine with full-color covers, proficient lay-out and frequent pull-out color posters of artists. The editors of the magazine are up to date on every variety of pop music and pop culture in general: by August 2 Live Crew had made it to Iberia. Issue 305 has a cover story on Dick Tracy and traces the character from the comic book to his recent manifestation on the screen. Recommended for anyone interested in practicing Portuguese and learning new Portuguese words like "funky." At the beginning of October, "Knockin' on Heaven's Door" by Guns'N'Roses was the number one song in Portugal. (T-28t) (Reviewed by Geof Huth.)

**BLONDIE FANZINE** Vol.3 #1 ($1.00 from 1997 Misner Road, Williamsport, PA 17701): This fanzine tracks all the shows and music coming from Deborah Harry and Blondie. The reviews are personal with insights coming from diehard fans (one even named Harry "Queen of the USA"). Rumors and facts are also acknowledged, with news briefs ranging from Blondie's next appearance in a film to Sire Records' new 900 number for hearing messages from your favorite artist. (S-5/CG)

☐**BLOW #1** ($1 from Jason Heussner, Hwy C Rt 1 W7531, Ft. Atkinson, WI 53538): A new and small music zine that manages to talk to some interesting folks, including the Wallmen and Gehenna, in this first issue. There's a typical cluttered layout, a sort of dream drawing, and a few zine reviews too. (S-22/MG)

☐**BORDER X-INGS #18-21** ($2 each from Mary Ann O'Brien, PO Box 5173, North Bergen, NJ 07047): A fanzine for the diehard U-2 and Celtic band fan. which expands just so slightly from that region. Editor O'Brien is fairly devoted to her subject and to the propagation of American understanding of the Celtic consciousness. Articles include coverage of Bono, Gavin Friday, Hothouse Flowers and artist Dermot Seymour. #21 goes out from music to look at citizen action involved in stamping out heroin pushing in Dublin. (S-15/CG)

**BOSTON ROCK #106** ($2 from T. Lozaw, PO Box 371, New Town Branch, Boston, MA 02258): Despite the name the music coverage in this tabloid is national, with an ear for independent but big-name groups: Danzig, Lemonheads, Billy Bragg, FIREHOSE among them in this issue. There's a nice section on the Black Rock Coalition in #106 as well, along with a pile of record and local tape reviews. (T-24t/MG)

**BPOMIA #10-11** ($3 postpaid from PO Box 9, 50200 Ptolemaida, GREECE): Music, comics and the occasional avant-garde art article, at least to judge by the photos, since this is all in Greek. I recognize folks like Psyclones and Jello Biafra, but others are new to me, and include some groups that are apparently of Greek origin. (A4-56t/MG)

**B-SIDE** Oct./Nov. 1990 ($4 from PO Box 1860, Burlington City, NJ 08016): A newsy, chatty music magazine which focuses in on a batch of reasonably big names every issue. This one has That Petrol Emotion, Gene Loves Jezebel, Hunters & Collectors and Nitzer Ebb, as well as bigger names including The Church and Robert Plant. Competent music writing with plenty of photos and a sprinkling of reviews at the end. (T-50t/MG)

**BUZZ #59** ($4/4 issues from PO Box 3111, Albany, NY 12203): Local music coverage for the college crowd around Albany. #59 includes Bob Mould, His Name Is Alive, and Lonesome Val, just to name three of the top stories. Pretty firmly in the college radio mold, but with the occasional surprise. (S-36t/MG)

**CEMETERY GATES** Vol. 1 #2 (2 stamps from Spider Crypt, 4336 Byesville Blvd., Dayton, OH 45431): A short zine for the Gothic set. It's got darkness and sadness, a classified section, and some fascination with the Misfits. Carnival of Souls gives a brief interview amid the other ghoulishness in this issue. (S-7/MG)

**CHAIRS MISSING** "ex-lion tamer issue" ($1.50 from Scott Munroe, PO Box 375, Fairfield, CT 06430-0375): Back from the grave and as fun as ever—Scott is still opinionated to the max and fun to read. This issue has some of the best NMS coverage yet, a review of a batch of Sonic Youth shows, and interviews with Babes in Toyland and Galaxie 500. A couple dozen record reviews and a zine listing too. (S-14r/MG)

**CLEVELAND REGGAE DIRECTORY** Vol. 2 #3 ($5/3 issues from PO Box 18115, Cleveland, OH 44118): A look at reggae music, concentrated in the Cleveland area clubs and stores, but expanding out to have more of national interest all the time. They've got industry news, plus interviews with Puma Jones, Josey Wales, and a centerfold spread of Black Uhuru members in this issue. (T-12t/MG)

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Fanzine on Irish Rock Groups and Celtic Life

BORDER X-INGS

Mary Ann O'Brien
Editor

P.O. Box 5173
North Bergen, NJ
USA 07047

**CLOT** #7-8 ($1 outside Colorado from PO Box 33330, Northglenn, CO 80233): Pretty wide coverage of music (interviews with Suicicdal Tendencies, Revolting Cocks, 24-7 SPYZ, to name a few in #7) and shows (Sonic Youth to Nick Cave), but it's the editorial flavor here that made me look twice. Editor Andrew Frey is discovering a broader range of topics and has now included a sports section (any sports section that leads off with the Denver Grand Prix is OK by me), and other goodies from pop culture. The video reviewer, although a bit dogmatic, is fun to read—especially his ode to Harry Dean Stanton. #8 ranges from Agnostic Front to Alan Ginsberg. (O-26t/CG)

☐**CRAMPED** #1 ($1 from Josh Abelon, 1 Griffin Rd., Clinton, NY 13323): Josh combines his love of music and movies by reviewing soundtrack albums in one section of the zine. He's also got plenty of straight indie record reviews, a pick of the month, a short short story, and lists of (I presume) favorites. Intelligent opinions and good writing lead to a promising start here. (S-20/MG)

**CROSSBRED** #3 ($1.50 from 6441 Warbler Ln., Mississauga, ONT, L5N 6E2, CANADA): A zine of punk music that is heavily into ending racism and other social justice activities. SHARP gets a few plugs here, and similar concerns show up in the interviews. Media Children, Executives and No Thanx get the most press inside. (S-14r/MG)

**CURIOUS GOODS** #3 ($2.25 from Jerry Rutherford, 3754 Almond Drive, Oxnard, CA 93030): This is a comprehensive fanzine for Loud Music, which makes a lot of sense. Interviews are extensive in here, ranging from Faith No More to Anacrusis to Dumt. Columns include a demo review list, video reviews, and show reviews. Except for the squashed print, this makes for extensive music reading—but, I guess that's how they're able to afford to cram so much in. (S-39r/CG)

☐**THE CURRENTLY UNTITLED BUT OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WICHITA AREA MUSIC COALITION** #1 (1 stamp from 1725 N. Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67208): This one was apparently provoked by the cancellation of a popular radio show on the local university station. This prompted people to organize, and now they're trying to get the show back and otherwise encourage alternative music. Includes a list of the best watering spots in town. (T-4t/MG)

**THE CUTTING EDGE** Vol.7 #7-8 ($1 from Dan Kennedy, 8303 Hilton Way, Orlando, FL 32810): A mostly review-type zine covering many areas of underground music in general and Christian music in particular. These folks know where to find the music and how to unearth the best. Also included are thoughtful editorials (I enjoyed Jeff Cebulski's bit on original sin in #7) classifieds, and some pretty in-depth reviews. With #8 they add reviews of gospel blues to their repertoire. (S-19r/CG)

**DEAR JESUS** #37 ($2 from PO Box 1145, Cooper Sta., New York, NY 10276): A music zine which is not afraid to tackle subjects that rouse a fuss—editor Sam dumps heavy on religion in this issue, backed up by a 2-song hard vinyl 7" from Born Against. There's cool interviews with the MRR crew and Seth Tobocman and Mike Bullshit and Mark Ryan, and the music and zine reviews are all mixed together, which is kind of fun. (S-24t/MG)

**DECALCOMANIA** #79 (Sample $1.25 from Box 126, Lincroft, NJ 07738): The place to go if you're into collecting radio and TV stickers, promo materials or general whatnot from the airwaves. Listed here are memberships, tradings, radio playlists, airchecks, and columns concerning all of the above. The review copy came in a body bag, so some of the content is mushed somewhere in a postal sorter. (D-12/CG)

**DECONTROL** #10:23:06-#Zone 6 (25¢ from PO Box 404, Duluth, GA 30136-0404): A small punk fanzine which editor Crash Rats has kept alive in the face of all manner of harassment lately. #10:23:06 has an interview with Pink Lincolns, as well as some reviews (he asks Arista to send along a CD player the next time they send a CD) and news on zines and interesting groups. (S-10r/MG)]

**DIE FAT PIGGY DIE** #15-21 (2 stamps & Age Statement from Decadence Comix, PO Box 134, Waynesville, MO 65583): Madness and confusion from the folks at Utsjen Recordings. Most of #15 is devoted to the band Base Apes, with publicity photos, a short interview, and selected reviews. The age statement is due to the lyrics for "Manual Dissection", reprinted in #15. #20 has a free condom and lots of rude jokes, while #21 is a medley of sex facts and fancies. Drifting progressively further from the music scene with each issue. (D-12/MG)

**DIFFERENT BEAT** Vol.1 #6 ($1 (?) from Indiana Music Coalition, PO Box 30143, Indianapolis, IN 46230): Covers the origianl music scene in Indiana and more. There's excitement over BEATFEST-90 (sort of a Woodstock in Indianapolis), local food reviews for those on the road, and an interesting section which features songwriters examining the work of musical artists—this issue John Scot Sheets looks at the works of Led Zeppelin. (S-8t/CG)

**DIRTY LINEN** #30 ($20/6 issues from PO Box 66600, Baltimore, MD 21239-6600): The magazine of "Folk, Electric Folk, Traditional and World Music" continues to expand out from its original Fairport Convention focus. Here we have Poi Dog Pondering, a whole column on Finnish music, a Welsh harper, and Dougie MacLean, among others. There's coverage from the Newport Folk Festival and as always an insert with extensive tour schedules for groups in their genre. (S-66t/MG)

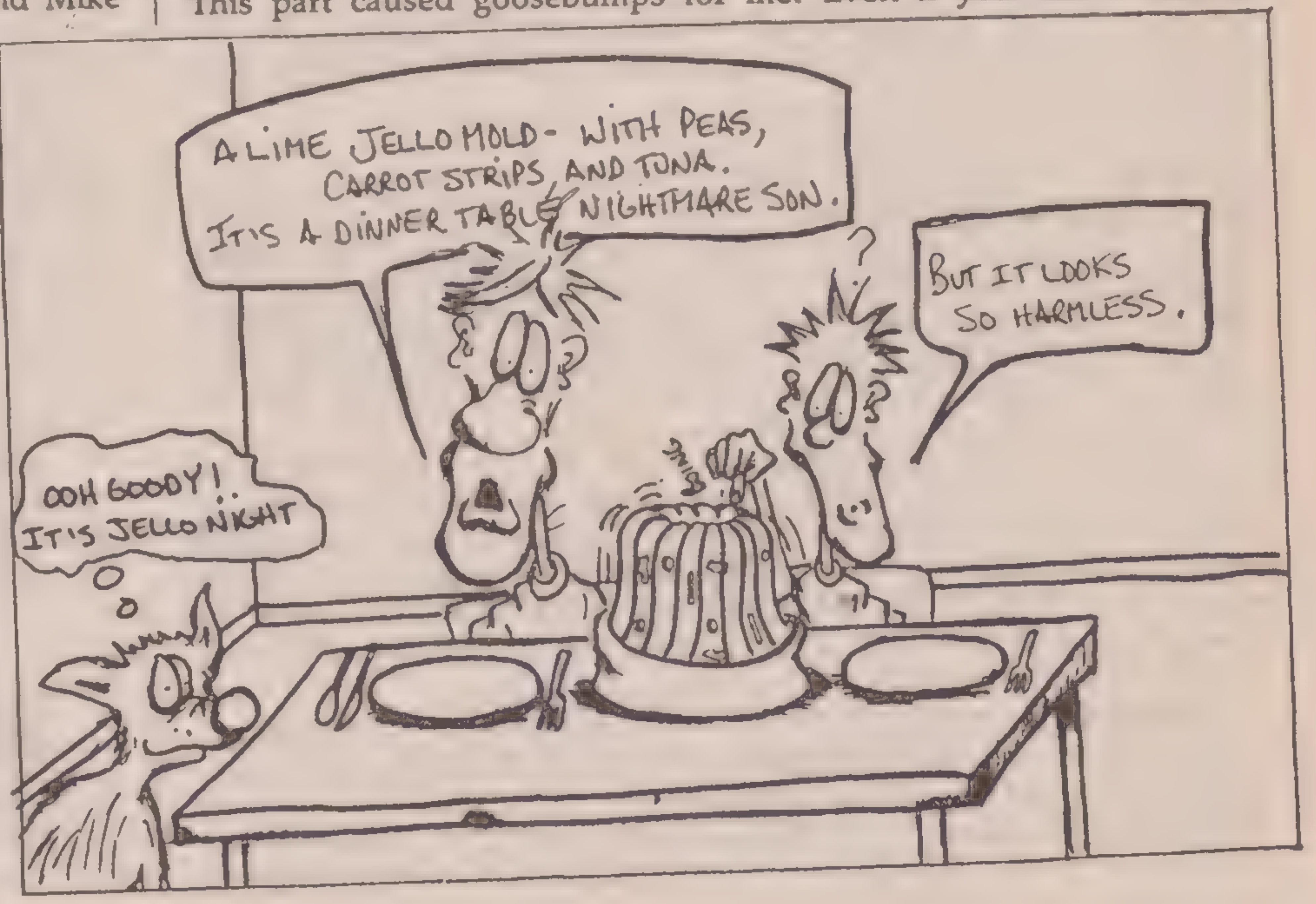
**DISCORDER** #92-93 ($15/yr from 6138 SUB Blvd., Vancouver, BC, V6T 2A5, CANADA): Music, madness, and the occasional page of comics (plus a calendar of local events) from a crazy radio station out Vancouver way. #92 has Ice-T, John Doe (ex-X), All and Steve Shelley from Sonic Youth among the interviewees. Urband Dance Squad and a cartoon tribute to Jim Henson dress up #93. (T-40t/MG)

**DISCOTEXT** #30 ($15/12 issues from Graceland, Box 103, 8415 Granville St., Vancouver, BC V6P 4Z9, CANADA): Nightclubbing and music in one package—understandably so, since it's put out for free by a Vancouver nightspot. In this issue you can meet Kode IV, an electronic outfit, and get a few words of wisdom from Chuck D. Locals will also find the essential scheduling and playlist information. (S-24t/MG)

**EAR OF CORN** #14-15 (50¢ from Dave Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): A music zine which opens its 14th issue with a pile of zine reviews. Further on there are communiques from Volkswhale and a chat with the Meat Shits, who don't seem to be very socially conscious guys A few record reviews finish things off. #15 has coverage including photos from a recent Suckdog concert—in fact, one of the ones on their video. (D-12r/MG)

**EAR(WIG) NOISES** #3 (50¢ & SASE from PO Box 80572, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A little record review zine—small enough to fit in the palm of your hand, easily. It reviews music they picked up around Minneapolis, mostly pretty obscure stuff like Hitler Haus and Sadiolas. Has some wild and crazy fake advertising too. (MM-20r/MG)

**EXCESS** Vol.2 ($1 from Dave Nathanson, Mitchell Hall Rm 523, 514 19th St. NW, Washington, DC 20006): Music zine with a conscience. There are interviews with Neurosis, Lucy Brown, Forced Down and others, reviews, a look at athiests vs. Krishnas and a powerful lead-off editorial about sexism ("Misogyny and Apply Pie"). This part caused goosebumps for me. Even if you don't listen to


A LIME JELLO MOLD- WITH PEAS, CARROT STRIPS, AND TUNA. IT'S A DINNER TABLE NIGHTMARE SON.
?
BUT IT LOOKS SO HARMLESS.
OOH GOODY! IT'S JELLO NIGHT

this sort of music, buy it for that editorial and tape it to your fridge. (S-21r/CG)

**EXPERIMENTAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS** Vol. VI #3 ($3.50 from PO Box 784, Nicasio, CA 94946): A zine for those interested in new ways to make musical sounds. It ranges from articles and drawings to heavy-duty acoustic math. This issue has the "(not so) Mobile Saxophone and Mute Unit" being demonstrated, a longish look at the use of percussion aerophones, and much more. Inspirational. (S-24/MG)

**FILE 13** #8 ($2 from Mark Lo, PO Box 175, Concord, MA 01742): Somewhere along the line this one has grown into something of a force to be reckoned with, a major voice on the indie music scene. This issue features interviews with Hal McGee, Green Magnet School and the folks from Re/Search. There are also tons of music reviews and a page or so of print ones, plus crazy letters and some editorial jazz. Intelligent and amusing. (S-44r/MG)

☐**FLAGPOLE** Vol. 4 #31-38 ($8/6 months from PO Box 1027, Athens, GA 30603): A weekly "Colorbearer of Athens; Art & Music", though the art coverage seems to amount to 5% or less. Mostly, this is notes on the local bands, apparently compiled from their press releases, together with a few columnists ranting about politics or whatever else catches their fancy. Plenty of ads for the local hip watering spots, but that won't do out of towners a lot of good. #37 and other issues leading up to the elections had much news to help inform the electorate. (S-40t/MG)

☐**FLEX'S DIGEST** #3 ($6 from Tiberiju, Schelleingasse 39/24, 1040 Wien, AUSTRIA): An Austrian music zine in the punk tradition, complete with a hard vinyl split single featuring No Fish on Friday and Heiland Solo. They've got everyone from Murphy's Law and Shudder To Think to Sons of Ishmael and a section on Cyberpunk. All in German, and with show, zine and record reviews included. (A4-60t/MG)

**FLIPSIDE** #68 ($2.50 from PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): Yup, punk's still out there, and it's still in here. Staff writer Krk gets more aggressive all the time, and his account of visiting NYC is a classic. For bands, try on Curious George, Bulimia Banquet, Jawbreaker, Youth Gone Mad, Harm Farm, and Jim Foetus. Letters with caustic replies and lots of classifieds contribute to the **FLIPSIDE** feel. (S-96t/MG)

☐**FONOPRESS** #3 ($10/4 issues from PO Box 114, 31-829 Krakow 31, POLAND): The first record collectors' zine for those in Eastern Europe, mainly in Polish though with a few English summaries (and an astounding 10,000 circulation!). This issue has discographies for the Beatles, Kate Bush, and Bon Jovi, among others. (D-48t/MG)

**FORCE FED** (25¢ or two stamps from Oliver Magnum Fan Club, PO Box 3951, Enid, OK 73702): A fanzine for members of the Oliver Magnum Fan Club. Notes on tours,, merchandise, recording dates and events of the band are listed. (S-3/CG)

**FOSTER CHILD** #5 (30¢ from 7635 Marcy Ct., Glen Burnie, MD 21061): Nothing but reviews of zines and music. Tony Miller and friends review indie stuff as well as material from those major labels foolish enough to send it—somewhat the same cross section as you'll find in our music reviews, but with less home-tapers. Witty and fun. (S-4r/MG)

**FOUR ALARM CHARM** #10 (Free from Ernesto Drudge, PO Box 10578, Minneapolis, MN 55458): At least it says "free" on the cover, though a buck to cover post and printing wouldn't hurt. Ernesto does reviews, plain and simple, of interesting new records and live shows. Soul Asylum, Wipers, Laughing Hyenas, Mazzy Star, Pussy Galore...lots of moderately big names here with intelligent commentary. (D-12r/MG)

☐**FUKNOSE** #1 ($3 *CASH* from PO Box 78-104, Grey Lynn, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND): A new music zine focused on the NZ hardcore scene—a different face of the music from there than we usually see. Heathen Filth and Das Unter Mensch are among the bands here. There's also live reports and a batch of socially conscious stuff from a look at the CIA to a report on environmental law proposals in NZ. (A4-20r/MG)

**GAINSAY** November 1990 (115 Candlewyck #704, Kalamazoo, MI 49001): Music zine with other stuff on their minds. Editors Joel and Danielle put together a collection of interviews (Naked Raygun, Toasters, Poison Idea, etc) and opinions on some relevant topics: censorship, racism, decency to animals. Also includes record reviews, a reprinted cruelty-free shopping guide, and photos. (S-25/CG)

**GAJOOB** #6 ($3 from Bryan Baker, PO Box 3201, Salt Lake City, UT 84110): *The* place to go for news and reviews from the ever-expanding independent and underground cassette culture. Bryan reviews hundreds of tapes (and includes sometimes-lengthy comments from their creators), talks to the folks involved, and publishes columns from the underground. This issue features interviews with Kathy King and Bret Hart, a great story from Michael Chocholak, the latest news from Cassette Mythos, and a fast-growing letter forum. (S-78t/MG)

**GODSEND** #15 ($1.25 *CASH/Stamps* from Todd, 1401 Fuquay Rd., Evansville, IN 47715): Music coverage that goes for dangerous and noisy and challenging bands: Legendary Pink Dots, Severed Heads, Batz Without Flesh and more in this issue. There's also a couple of chilling sexual short stories from Gregory Nyman and a booklet of White Boy poems, as well as music reviews. (D-24r/MG)

☐**GROOVEY FANZINE** #1 ($1(?) from 1216 20th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122): Chattering music fanzine which maintains a British feel to it although it's co-edited in California and Wisconsin. Interviews with Primal Scream and The Bachelor Pad which are mostly handwritten and lean towards sexual frivolity ("Do you like being called cute?"). Gushing with teeny-bopper titillation and oh-my-god-I-can't-believe-he's-so-cute aphorisms. (HL-55/CG)

**HEARTSONG REVIEW** #9 ($8/2 issues from PO Box 1084, Cottage Grove, OR 97424): A zine that sticks specifically to music that is "socially and spiritually aware". They do in-depth reviews of the music that fits their focus, with technical notes and suggested uses as well as more traditional narrative reviews. They also talk to the people who make this music possible; this issue has a chat with healer Jonathon Goldman. And with the next issue they'll even be including a sampler tape with subscriber copies! (S-56t/MG)

**HOODWINK** #4 (47¢ from David Font, 200 SE 15 Rd. #16D, Miami FL 33129): Hardcore litmag with Genitorturer and Born Against interviews, a black radical rant against the likes of Arsenio Hall, and a grim SF piece on teen suicide. Standard fare. (D-40/JR)

**INCITE!** #18(The Usual from Tim Alborn, PO Box 649, Cambridge, MA 02238): Personal music zine from Tim (also the home of Harriet Records), who regales us with tales of his sojourn/music quest in England last summer. All kinds of indie music is discussed here, from England and home, plus news of record companies like Merge and Bi-Joopiter. Addresses are given for all. Added feature is an excerpt from Brautigan, revealing a dedication for Tim's partner Alix and some intensely personal feelings. I like it. (D-16/CG)

**INFLUENCE** #6 ($1.25 from 664 12th St. #207, San Pedro, CA 90731): A positive punk fanzine that takes a strong stand against animal testing on the inside covers. Interviews with No For an Answer, Chain of Strength and Haywire are among those here, together with a centerfold of band photos. This may be the last issue, but the editor promises a new zine in its place. (S-20/MG)

**INK DISEASE** #16 ($2.50 from 4563 Marmion Way, Los Angeles, CA 90065): Yow, new music is still alive and well and there's tons of it here. Screamin' Jay Hawkins, Beat Happening, Tragic Mulatto, Anus the Menace, fIREHOSE and Faith No More all get their ounce of ink. New records from the past months are reviewed, and there are plenty of photos. Includes a 40 page bonus section of anti-Drug War graphics and words, with a "Jail Survival Guide". (S-136t/MG)

**THE INSIDER** #16 ($10/yr from PO Box 4542, Arlington, VA 22204): This little music zine is growing fast, in both circulation and size. Now there's room for more interviews and show reviews than before, and this issue features a talk with The Shivers. A window on the music scene in their area. (M-16t/MG)

**JACKHAMMER POGOSTICK** #5 ($1 plus 65¢ stamps from maatatude Uhjustuh, 2425 Holly Hall #F-77, Houston, TX 77054): This music zine is getting pretty darned fat, nearing the burst capacity of the staples. Inside are tons of neat photos, duelling Lost tour diaries, talks with All and Rollins, and more. Editorials go after censorship and other plagues, and of course they pack in reviews too. I say go for it. (D-100r/MG)

**JERSEY BEAT** #41 ($1.50 from Jim Testa, 418 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, NJ 07087): Over 40 and still going strong—amazing. Jim has a perspective on the world of new music matched by few and a staff that can write about everything from Gwar to A Guy

Called Gerald with ease. Yo La Tengo, Nine Inch Nails and Crawlpappy get major press in this issue, along with a large number of music reviews. Special attention, as always, goes to folks in the greater NYC area. (S-64t/MG)

**JIMI** #21 ($1(?) from PO Box 374, Des Plaines, IL 60016): This is the newsletter from the Jimi Hendrix Information Management Institute—faithful to the memory of Jimi and listing notes on biographies, collecting, and radio playlists. There are also other artists found in here, including an obit of (and investigatory look at the accident of) Stevie Ray Vaughan. (S-6t/CG)

□**KITTEN FRENZY** #0 ($1 & 1 IRC from Graham Kemp, 335 Great Western Road, Kelvinbridge, Glasgow, G4, UK): A zine of music that seems to have been chosen mainly because the editors think it's fun stuff. This includes both well-known folks like the Pixies and Sonic Youth and the more obscure Field Mice and Pastels. There's also a few pages of really strange hallucinatory comics—when the word "fab" popped up, I knew something strange was going on. (D-28r/MG)

**THE LEDGE** #10 1/2 (Free from 321 Cokes Drive, Toms River, NJ 08753): To celebrate their third year in the zine business, the editor decided to offer this issue for free. It's smaller than usual, with mostly indy music reviews, contact addresses, reader's poll results and an interview with Grinch. (S-10/CG)

**THE LI'L RHINO GAZETTE** #16 ($2.50 ppd. from PO Box 14139, Arlington, TX 76094-1139): The print keeps getting smaller in this, but that's because there is so much the editors want to put out in here. LOTS of interviews (The Chills, Glass Eye, Uncle Green to name a few), music reviews, gossip about the industry (What *is* REM doing these days?) and a very attentive dialogue on the problems facing music via the PMRC. Hope they get more publishing bucks soon, cause I can't keep up with the reducing. (HL-50r/CG)

□**LIMELIGHT** #8 (£1 from Mark Fisher, 14 High St., Tweeddale Ct., Edinburgh EH1, UK): The UK's official XTC fanzine. For those fans who want to gorge on XTC info, read here. Notes of fan conventions, new releases, interviews with band members and endless interpretations of their music—even an XTC word puzzle. (S-23t/CG)

**LIVING FATALITY** #5 ($1 from Chris Henderson, 401 W. Marshall, Elkhorn, WI 53121): Music coverage that pays a lot of attention to social issues. There's a mini roundtable in this issue on homosexuality, some thoughts on vegetarianism, and a section on the PMRC. Musically, it runs from Nitzer Ebb and Revolting Cocks to thoughts about rap music. Includes a White Boy chapbook. (S-26/MG)

**THE MANDOCRUCIAN'S DIGEST** #16 ($10/yr from PO Box 3585, Winchester, VA 22601): "America's only Mandolin publication," this zine is put out by, for, and about mandolin players of which there seems to be a fair amount. Part 2 of an interview with Peter Ostroushko, the mandolin in rock discography and "The Grammies and Bluegrass" are some featured articles, as well as reader surveys, new techniques and music for mandolin, and a special reprint of my esteemed co-editor's **THREATS TO YOUR RIGHTS** article. (O-19/CG)

□**MARCHING FOR TRASH** #1 (50¢ from 159-42 Highland Ave., Jamaica, NY 11432): This is only marginally a music zine, inasmuch as Rich is centered in the music scene (and has some nasty things to say about its commercialization) but mostly printing editorial pieces here. Sex and sexism are major concerns. (D-20/MG)

**MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL** #89 ($2.50 from PO Boix 288, Berkeley, CA 94701): Though occasionally derided as out of touch by people with particular axes to grind, or slammed for its liberal/commie ideology, this remains sort of "punk central", the place to look for provocative letters, alternative news, columns and scene reports. They also review lots of records and talk to bands like Strike Out, The Offspring, and Haywire (all in #89). (S-128t/MG)

**MEAN STREET** Vol.2 #3-4 (Free from PO Box 55039, Riverside, CA 92517): This is the music magazine from the Riverside area, better known as the Inland Empire. Metal events, new music coverage and loads of interviews (Spiderworks, Peter Hook, Hindu Garage Sale in #3 for a few). Looks like total music coverage for that area, too. #4 includes Megadeath and reggae artist Pato Banton. They've also got a page for local poets to make use of. (O-31t/CG)

**THE METRO** Nov. 1990 ($2 from Keith A. Gordon, PO Box 158324, Nashville, TN 37215): A music tabloid directed at the Mid-South region—Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia, like that. This issue has the ever-amusing Mojo Nixon as well as Faith No More and Matraca Berg. They report on concert tours and provide some political music news as well. (T-32t/MG)

**MIDI GUITARIST** Vol. 1 #2 ($26/4 issues from Digital Arts & Sciences, PO Box 21354, Oakland, CA 94620): A pretty technical zine for people who are into guitar synthesis. It presumes a fair amount of knowledge about both guitars and MIDI, and goes on from there. This issue gets into the Roland GR-50, with simplified instructions and ideas for patches. Real slick stuff. (S-20t/MG)

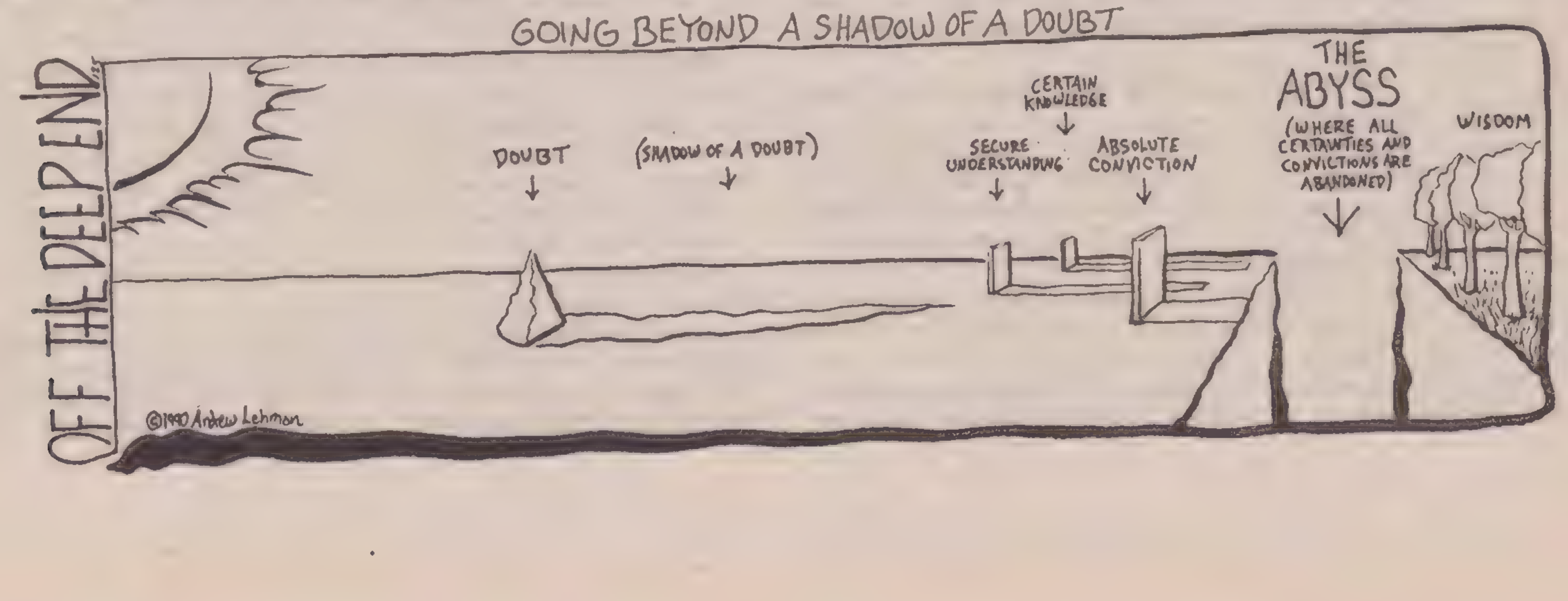
**MINDSET** #3 (50¢ from Charles Maggio, 305 Hayward Dr., Paramus, NJ 07652): Hardcore music and the people who are into it create this zine. It's got Mike Bullshit doing the tour diary thing, a reprint from **SLUG & LETTUCE**, some anti-religious ranting. Animal Crackers, Walking Tall, and more. Sort of a punk apa. (S-20r/MG)

□**MISPRINTS** #1 ($3 (?) from Melchior Treublaan 40, 2313 VH Leiden, HOLLAND): A new English-language punk zine that's very into social action and notes from the weird corners of the world. This issue reports on a crucified car and contains cautionary thoughts about a reunified Germany. They also talk to Libido Boyz, Seein' Red, The Accused and Carcass. Great graphics too. (A4-36r/MG)

□**THE MISSION HILL VIEW** Vol. 2 #11 ($8.50/6 issues from Sigourney Street, PO Box 1506 GMF, Boston, MA 02205-11506): A reader-written music zine that changes names with each issue (the one prior to this was **THE QUEEN OF WHALES**). Some folks offer fairly normal album reviews, others comment on local radio and club action, still others provide looks into rock history and their buying habits. Pretty centered on rock rather than punk or other genres. (D-20t/MG)

**MLC** Vol. 4 #3 ($5 from Linda & Peter Weinzettl, PO Box 1213, Stn. B, Downsview, ONT, M3H 5V6, CANADA): A comprehensive slick-cover zine for loyal fans of Madonna. They've got the rundown on collectibles in this issue, from Blonde Ambition tour merchandise to movie tie-ins. They also have notes from a batch of her public appearances (her bodyguards sound like real thugs) and a listing of other Madonna zines and clubs. (S-28t/MG)

**MOE WORKS AT WAL-MART** Vol. 2 #4 ($1 (?) from 1213 1/2 E. New Orleans, Tampa, FL 33603): Music coverage that sometimes goes off on odd tangents; the lead review in this issue is of the recent Jack Kerouac compilation album. They also get into Monday Mornings and The Clean, report from the New Music Seminar, and



review a heap of records. Nice live Public Enemy account here too. (S-18r/MG)

**MOUTH** #10-11 ($8/12 issues from PO Box 2069, Decatur, GA 30030): The South's music tabloid is still looking good and going strong. #10 has opinion pro and con on the New South Music Showcase, plus stories on Faith No More, Lava Love, John Doe and the Dixie Tramps. #11 has a cool Soul Asylum spread and some comics reviews. (T-12t/MG)

**MUSIC MART** Vol. 1 #3-4 ($15.95/12 issues from 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54945): Wall to wall music ads from people who want to buy, swap, or (mostly) sell. Categories range from "acoustic" to "zydeco", with special sections for fanzines, the Mercury R90,000 Series, and other esoterica. Cheap ad rates too. (T-60t/MG)

☐**THE MUSIC SCENE** Vol. 2 #7-8 ($10/yr from PO Box 4661, Annapolis, MD 21403): An Annapolis-based music zine wishing to bring together local music news from Baltimore and D.C., although they bring in bits and pieces from other lands as well—#7 featuring American blues in Denmark. They also take a look at all aspects of music, including movie soundtracks, concert benefits, live reviews et al. Looks like they have a grand amount of support from the local businesses and that no doubt helps a good deal. Extensive club listings are a major feature. (S-30t/CG/MG)

**NECROPTIC DELIRIA** #2 ((?) from Andreas Horn, Haiterbacher Str. 31, 7270 Nagold, GERMANY): Subtitled "Rednecks Attack Wimpozoids," this is a curious mix of English headlines with German content. Hard to figure, really. The cover promises "terror, depravity, exploitation, sleazy fun!" There's an English-only interview with Jörg Buttgereit, as well as some exploitive comics. Bi-lingual blood and gore extravaganza. (S-20/CG)

**THE NEW MUSIC INFORMER** #11 ($1 from 3514 Millhaven Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27106): They're not kidding when they say new music. They interview Nikki Meets the Hibachi, 13 Nightmares, and reviews lots of new music, but haven't a clue as to who the Roches are. I could be wrong. Maybe they just don't like the Roches. (S-9/CG)

**THE NEW MUSIC SCENE** Vol. 4 #1-2 ($5.00/yr from Gloria Sheehan, PO Box 10775, Stamford CT 06904): Small but filled with new music talk, reviews and information. #1 looks at the New Music Seminar held in NYC from a wider stance than just the music, the new bands coming out of Manchester and takes a poke at Roseanne Barr's banned performances (future). Featured artists in #2 include Limbomaniacs and Ultra Vivid Scene. (S-12t/CG/MG)

☐**THE NEW PURITAN REVIEW** #4-5 (50¢ from J. Free, PO Box 2414, Loop Sta., Minneapolis, MN 55402): A music zine that also explores other topics—an interview with Larry-Bob from **HOLY TITCLAMPS** in #4, a page or two on factory farming in #5. #5 also has an extensive Fugazi interview, while #4 goes for Killdozer. Record reviews in both editions. (HL-24t/MG)

**THE NEWSLETTER** Vol.3 #12-Vol. 4 #2 ($10/yr from PO Box 93237, Milwaukee, WI 53203): A pretty intelligent and well-rounded repository from Milwaukee. They cover new music, counter an anti-racist letter admonishing the actions of Milwaukee music promoters with a pledge to work towards non-racism, interview multi-faceted John Kruth and speak on almost every music topic from conferences to club dates. #2 has some bad things to say about a recent Iggy Pop show and some good ones to say about college radio. (S-19t/CG/MG)

**THE NOISE** #99-100 ($10/yr from Timothy Maxwell, 74 Jamaica St., J.P., Boston, MA 02130): An indy music zine which operates with an inside joke attitude, but is fun to read nonetheless. Interviews with Gingerbutkis, ZugZug, a true-life fable about Sweatty Betty (the Van Who Came To Town) and a look at a cool radio station in New Hampshire. (S-20r/CG)

☐**NO SCENE ANYWHERE** #0 (SASE from Bill Burg, 1871 G St., #11, Arcata, CA 95521): One of the best reasons to start your own zine is because you're fed up with the "scene" around you. That's what Bill has done here—borrowing from zinedom, creating a "scene" for Arcata and around, and generally reaching out. Interview with Grimace, a look at the night life in those parts, subtle SubG plus, and (my favorite, naturally) coffee reviews from various hot spots in Arcata. (D-9/CG)

**THE NOTE** Vol.5 #9-11 ($15/yr from 735.5 New Hampshire, Lawrence, KS 66044): Music, arts, dining, reviews of the Lawrence and KC area, but with more for those with any interest of current events in the arts. Censorship plays a big part here, with calls in #9for rallying against those neanderthals in Florida, music reviews and a lively sense of competition with the "bigger" cities, and success at it. William S. Burroughs makes the cover of #11. (O-29t/CG)

**NOTE FOR NOTE** #7 1/2 ($2 from S. Roeser, 2646 1/2 Griffith Park Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90039): Los Angeles-based music zine that goes in for solid blocks of text—no paragraphs, no margins—to pack the most in. They're also partial to classic rock, with Johnny Otis interviewed in this issue. A special section reviews recent cover songs. (S-8/MG)

**THE OBLIGATOR** Vol. III #5 ($1 from Mark Hodges, PO Box 915, Muskegon, MI 49443-0915): A Christian music magazine which covers a wide spectrum of music, paying attention to the religious as well as the musical side of things. They are quite serious folks, which does not prevent them from having fun and enjoying bands such as Scarlet Rayne and Sacrament. Lots of record and tape reviews in this issue. (S-12r/MG)

☐**ONE SHOT** Vol.1 #4 ($3 from Contract Station 6, Box 145, 1525 Sherman St., Denver, CO 80203): Finally, a music zine dedicated to neglected Rock and Roll. If you ever wondered what happened to Frankie Ford, Dino, Desi and Billy and Barry Ryan—here's where to look. Editor Rosen has a great store of knowledge of these and other exciting musical pasts. Other articles include "British Hits/American Flops"—why some music from abroad never got started over here. (S-20/CG)

**OPTION** #35 ($4 from 2345 Westwood Blvd. #2, Los Angeles, CA 90064): The biggest fattest slickest review of alternative music around. This issue has a special section on indie producers, with chats with six of them, plus an interview with madman genius Kramer. They've also got Galaxie 500, The Jean Paul Sartre Experience, My Bloody Valentine, Don Cherry, and plenty more, plus an assortment of reviews and a strong article on the INS restrictions on traveling musicians. (S-162t/MG)

**OUTER SHELL** #59-60 (SASE from 9807 61st Ln. N, Pinellas Park, FL 34666-3131): Two pages of music coverage, regular as clockwork. The 59th issue reports on the dismal performance of the band currently touring as Herman's Hermits, reviews music from a bunch of big name bands, and pictures and oyster come to visit the editor. (S-2r/MG)

☐**PIMP** #1-2 (50¢ and SASE from 504 W. 24th St. #102, Austin, TX 78705): Mostly a music zine but some other fields are explored as well. #1 has interviews with many bands, including Afghan Whigs and Mudhoney, plus a bonus interview with Mark Weaver—evidently an anti-porn-smut-homosexuality bug in N. Austin. There's also a Tarot Card reader, Magical Mystical Maria and an obituary of a penis. #2 has the Dwarves and Jesus Lizard, plus a talk with their friendly (really!) neighborhood mortician. (S-30r/CG/MG)

**POSITIVELY ENTERTAINMENT & DINING** Vol. 14 #8-9 ($15/yr from Crooked Arrow Publishing Co., PO Box 16009, Portland, OR 97216): Where to go and what to see in Portland, together with where to eat beforehand. #8 features local favorite Ed Newman on the cover, along with a batch of other bands. There's also a centerfold of news for dancers and plenty of blues. (T-16t/MG)

**POST NO BILLS** Vol.2 #1 ($4/8 issues from PO Box 758, Normal, IL 61761): The most music info from Normal, the town, not the state of mind. Live shows like the New Duncan Imperials, Didgits and No Empathy are talked about, as well as an interview with ALL (descendents of The Descendents). N.B.: The "Allroy" figure was the cause of much hubbub over his crucifying position. (D-15/CG)

**PRETTY OBSCURE** #4 ($5/12 issues from Todd Mason, 5882 Jackson Oak Ct., Burke, VA 22015-2303): A jazz fanzine that also branches out to other areas of "unpopular culture"—this time, for example, there's an extensive list of anti-censorship groups and some discussion of the links between SF and other fandoms. For jazz, try reviews of a couple of magazines, two videos, and a live performance at Wolf Trap. (L-2t/MG)

**PROFANE EXISTENCE** #6 ($1.50 from PO Box 8722, Minneapolis, MN 55408): Hardcore and punk music and anarchist action all rolled into one, put out by a collective that also produces records. This issue comes out against US involvement in the Mideast, talks with Conflict and the editor of **ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO FREE**, and generally pushes for action and music. (S-40t/MG)

**PUNCTURE** #20 ($3.50 from 1592 Union St. #431, San Francisco, CA 94123): If you want to keep up with new music, this one is essential, though as yet not as well known as it should be. Interviews include Kim Deal (with rare chat about the Breeders as well as the Pixies). Genesis P Orridge, Living Colour, and Beat Happening. Then there's Jawbreaker, Ultra Vivid Scene, Vulgar Boatmen, House of Large Sizes, and oh yeah, lots of reviews...you get the idea. (S-68t/MG)

**PUNK AND DESTROY** #5 ($1.25 from David Alvord, 1410 NW Lancashire Ct., Beaverton, OR 97006): About the best thing I can say about this zine is that David is trying to contribute to his local scene. However, he does so by scrawled handwriting on just a few pages, reviewing a live show or two, ranting about over-21 clubs, and dropping a few names from the scene. Crude work. (S-8/MG)

☐**RADICALLY SAVED MAGAZINE** Vol. 2 #7 ($2 from Tyler Bacon, PO Box 9590, Murfreesboro, TN 37132): A Christian metal zine that devotes a bit of space to things like the basics of prayer, as well as to the music. Featured bands here include Tourniquet, Holy Soldier, and Vengeance Rising. It's always interesting to see songs critiqued theologically as well as musically. (S-24t/MG)

**RAMBLIN' ROSE** Vol.1 #5 ($1.50 from Pierre Roussel, PO Box 643, Station C, Montreal, Quebec, Canada M2L 4L5): More music from the Northern part of the continent. Interviews with The Trapt and The Hopping Penguins, plus show reviews from Montreal and other parts and on a separate note, some rather scary statistics about the Meat Industry and how it treats its subjects. Real scary. (S-16/CG)

**RAMBLIN' WILLIE'S BROADSIDE** Vol. 2 #3 (50¢ from PO Box 642, Winterville, GA 30683): Music coverage that hopscotches from blues to pop from a player who's got his own fun tape out. There's a Squeeze concert here as well as a historical feature on Blind Willie McTell and some random stuff and art. (S-8t/MG)

☐**RATIONAL** 1/90 (1-2 IRCs from Room Service, PO Box 361, 00121 Helsinki, FINLAND): A replacement for **RATBEAT**, now dead since the entire eighth issue was eaten by the word processor. This shadow contains a few record reviews, notes from overseas DJs, and a list of music they liked around the (now ex-) **RATBEAT** offices. (D-4r/MG)

**REAL LIFE** #29-30 ($1 from Debi Dip, 6520 Selma Ave. #332, Los Angeles, CA 90028): A music zine with a formula that works. Debi starts each issue with precisely one longish interview—in #29 it's Haunted Garage, for #30 record producer Long Gone John. There's a few pages of reviews, a Stubo (the cat with no paws) cartoon, a bit of John Trubee art and perhaps some short rants. Fun without being overwhelming. (S-26/MG)

**RIPPING HEADACHES** #12-13 ($2 from 10314 Cliff Circle, Tampa, FL 33612): A music zine that is co-edited on both sides of the Atlantic—one being in Florida and the other in France. This makes the reviews a bit more interesting and the interviews contrasting. However, the reproduction of #12 is not too good and you shouldn't read this in a dim light. Interviews include Doomwatch, Coroner and Stygian. Fortunately, #13 sports a new printer and is much easier to read, with plenty of photos and talks with Funeral Nation and Massacra. (S-54/CG/MG)

**THE ROC** #4 ($1 from Woods, 320 S. Cadiz St., Jewett, OH 43986): This Midwest anti-censorship zine makes the jump to tabloid format with this issue and is looking better than ever. They talk about recent wins and losses, get some artists to talk about censorship, and maintain a database of addresses for the good guys and the bad guys. (T-8/MG)

**ROCK & ROLL** #2 (10 mk from Esa Virta, Parkaninkatu 4 C 29, 33720 Tampere, FINLAND): Finnish language music coverage the runs from The Band to Faith No More. There seems to be a slight slant towards garage rock, but with at least half the bands here being Finnish homegrowns and not a scrap of English in sight, it's hard to be sure. (D-32/MG)

**ROCK AGAINST SEXISM** Vol. 4 ($2 *CASH* from PO Box 390643, Cambridge, MA 02139): Sex and drugs and rock and roll in the nineties (complete with a helpful chart identifying trends through the past four decades). They interview the Vivians and Fugazi, report on anti-sexist activities around Boston, and try to find a few positive things to say abotu sex. Women in rap, censorship, protests against male-only bars also show up. (S-48t/MG)

☐**ROCK AROUND THE WORLD** #1 ($2 *US or Canada* from PO Box 40684, Portland, OR 97232): Just as the title indicates, this music zine is dedicated to bringing you up-to-date info on bands around the world. So far there is little editorial content (subject to change) but very comprehensive listings by city and band of every tour date (and place) of over 100 bands internationally. Their goal is to become "a primary source of tour info for alternative rock bands worldwide" and are well on their way to accomplishing that. They also need for bands to send tour info and people to review live shows. (S-31t/CG)

☐**ROCK CITY** #1 (STAMP from Rock City Productions, 1415 Main St., Suite 720, Worcester, MA 01603): A fan newsletter with some band pics on the groups involved in RC's sampler-tapes project. Without the sampler tape tho' this doesn't convey much. (S-2/JR)

**ROX** Vol.3 #3 (*Free* from PO Box 423, Joppa, MD 21085-0423): Baltimore's rock monthly that sticks to down 'n dirty rock. A great place to go for info on every metal piece of information there is. This month, a quote from Glenn Danzig (of the self-named band) caught my eye. Something about his lyrics revealing what they (PMRC, etc) are thinking, not what he is saying. (O-32t/CG)

(A4-22r/MG)

**SCREAMING ROCK** #16 ($2 from Shauna Sky, 6334 S. Long, Chicago, IL 60638): A music zine with some tilt towards metal but an apparent love of underground music of any sort. Warrior Soul, Wild Child, Larry Mitchell and 7th Stranger grace these pages, along with classified ads, reviews, and silly pix of rock stars with absurd captions. (S-24/MG)

**SECONDS** #11 ($2.50 from PO Box 2553, Stuyvesant Sta., New York, NY 10009): New music coverage in a large-page interview format. They're pretty eclectic: Suicidal Tendencies, Diamandia Galas, artist Joe Coleman, guitar whiz Steve Vai and Cop Shoot Cop are among the profiles in this issue. Seems a bit show-bizzy at times, promoting ideas of celebrity, but their space also allows some of these interviews to go into pretty good depth. (T-36t/MG)

☐**SENSURED** #6-8 ($1 (?) from 3560 Temple Ave. Dept. H221, Pomona, CA 91768): A small music zine for the Los Angeles underground dance club scene, where acid and house music are big and the advertising is certainly suggestive of dangerous drugs. They review the various parties, and also talk about music and videos and run some fiction. Lots of exuberant photos and strange invitations here. (M-24t/MG)

**SHOCKWAVE** June/July 1990 ($1 (?) from 7 Lombardy Dr., Baltimore, MD 21222): A music zine that runs from the Baltimore to New York axis and rock to metal in tastes. This issue has a page on Oingo Boingo (who I hadn't known were still around), plus ones on Angkor Wat and Scatterbrain, to name a few. A couple of columns of gossip and chat fill in between band stories. (S-16t/MG)

☐**SKA-95** #3 ($1 (?) from Chris & Marc, 89 Mass Ave. #127, Boston, MA 02115): Well, it isn't thick or exhaustive, but this *is* the only zine I know devoted exclusively to ska and closely related

music. Mostly it's reviews, though there is also a column on where to buy the stuff. They're looking for folks to write scene reports and other stuff about ska. (S-8t/MG)

**SKULL SESSION** #18 ($1 from Brad Mitchell, 3187 Keynes Ct., Mississauga, Ontario, L5N 2Z7, Canada): Music zine with interviews with One Blood, Problem Children, Industrial Suicide, plus the trouble with Greenpeace, Green Products, environmental notes Canadian and otherwise. (S-30r/CG)

**SLUG & LETTUCE** #18 (SASE from Christine, Peter Stuyvesant Sta., PO Box 2067, New York, NY 10009-8914): This zine has doubled in size since offering free classifieds, and now wants display ads (at reasonable rates) to help out. Chris also reviews other folks' zines and records, with an emphasis on the smaller, do it yourself outfits. (S-4r/MG)

**SOCIETY PAGES USA** #3 ($$4 from PO Box 356, Wantagh, NY 11793): A fine music magazine, dedicated to the works and life of Frank Zappa. This issue I especially liked, because it is absolutely packed with anti-censorship stuff, including things I hadn't known before about that ludicrous Judas Priest subliminal suicide case. Frank himself talks at length, and there is extensive news about projects and songs current and past. (HL-70t/MG)

☐**S.O.S. SUBSTITUTE** (Swap/stamps/nice letters from Shakefork Records, 513 Prairie, Downers Grove, IL 60515): Music and activism wrapped into one easy package. There's an interview with Shudder To Think, notes on companies you should not support, and some basic facts on the Mohawks. There's also a fat section of local scene gossip and news. (D-20/MG)

**SPACEBALL RICOCHET** #10 ($ 1.50 from PO Box 71294, Milwaukee, WI 53211): Music and other Milwaukee scene stuff in a hip postmodern design package. They've got Wobble Test and Smashing Pumpkins in this issue, along with an article on thee tragically hip, some art gallery news, and notes on the hemp conspiracy. (S-38t/MG)

☐**SPHERE OF INFLUENCE** #1 ($1 from PO Box 7085, Penndel, PA 19047): A new music zine from out of college radio land. Dread Zeppelin gets a very enthusiastic show review, and there are interviews with Ween and All. There's also a chat with a Trenton hooker, who unfortunately is not very coherent or even interesting. Plenty of show reviews here. (S-24/MG)

**SPINAL REMAINS** #3 ($1 from Danny Bolleri, 1661 Connecticut Dr., Redwood City, CA 94061): An aggressive little punk zine that doesn't mind splattering around a few opinions, good and bad. This issue has Dave Schall writing about the best places to send material for review, an article ragging on the current state of Danzig, and interviews with Volkswhale, Meatshit, and Glen Hirabayashi, who puts out **ENDLESS RESISTANCE** zine. (S-14r/MG)

**SPIRIT** #14 (DM2,50 from Marc Hairapetian, Hoffman-von-Fallersleben-Str. 38A, D-3000, Hannover 51, Germany): Slick all-German new music zine which loves Debbie Harry to death. There are interviews with Herself, Darling Buds, the Sugarcubes, and many more, plus articles on the B-52's and The Who. If you can grapple with the language barrier, you'll have fun (S-38t/CG)

**THE SPLATTER EFFECT** Vol. II #26 ($12/12 issues from Box 2, Bound Brook, NJ 08805): Music industry news that ranges from the Pixies and the Limbomaniacs to Billy Idol. Recent projects and tours are the focus, with plenty of PR photos. They also review recent albums, with Atrophy, Nick Cave and John Hiatt among the artists treated here. Also a strong section of club info. (T-32t/MG)

☐**SPLINTER** #2-3 (IRCs from 83 Evelyn Rd., Howick, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND): Free locally, but be kind and support their postage at least. This little zine seems to mainly focus on American groups: The Pandoras and Yummy Fur in #2, Lisa Suckdog and Happy Flowers in #3 (the issue with the hand-colored cover). They have short reviews and a strange serial comic along with the cheerful interviews. (D-20/MG)

**SPOTLIGHT** #75-76 ($6/12 issues from PO Box 63423, St. Louis, MO 63163): A local music tabloid, with the requisite classified ads and show listings. There's plenty of article content too, though, with #75 focusing largely on local blues. #76 has a chat with Holly Near and an article on a coming movie featuring a St. Louis locale. (T-20t/MG)

**STEPPINGSTONE** ($2 from Baby Faze Productions, PO Box 4264, San Francisco, CA 94101): A source for every kind of music info from arrangers and composers to record companies in the SF area. Invaluable source for bands, musicians, or just the student doing a thesis on the industry. (D-20r/CG)

**THE STONES** #18 ($2.25 from Robert Furrer, PO Box 603, Suisun City, CA 94585): A Rolling Stones fanzine with international contacts. Robert publishes lots of news on various bootlegs, from Polish flexis to more widely-available material. There are vintage clippings, album labels, and a partial Ian Stewart discography in this issue. (S-22/MG)

**STRANGE NOISE** #6 ($1 from 8312 Greenock Dr., Richmond, VA 23235): Strange noise indeed, from an interview with Scott Marshall to one with 2 Car Family. In between are a batch of reviews and some art. Not overly organized, but an obvious attempt to share some good music with others. (S-18/MG)

**SUBSTITUTION** #1 ($4 from Sam Pederson, 28332 PV Dr. E, RPV, CA 90724): An alternative music zine with a bent towards the industrial. Production copies will include a tape with Red Temple Spirits, Fourway Cross, Distorted Pony and Stereotaxic Device. All of these bands are interviewed inside, too, among the politically-correct columns. (HL-28r/MG)

**SUBURBAN VOICE** #29 ($3.50 from PO Box 1605, Lynn, MA 01903): Hardcore mag with very comprehensive playlists, interviews, editorials and, of course, reviews. This issue talks to Fugazi, Killing Time and a host of others, plus a 45 tucked in the pages with Crawpappy and Shear Terror, respectively. Editor Al Quint's rant on the state of hardcore is sobering, especially for the diehard fan. (S-56t/CG)

**SYBERITE** (50¢ from Greg Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): "A guide to the list tapes" of this pretty well unknown band. There are track lists and a few lyrics in here, but not much else. (M-8/MG)

**TECHNOLOGY WORKS** #3-4 ($1 *Cash or stamps* from PO Box 477, Placenta, CA 92670-0477): A concise, no nonsense zine of interviews compiled mostly by editor Paul Moore. Revolting Cocks, Paul Barker and Nine Inch Nails have their say in #3, as well as a few reviews, playlists and upcoming play dates. Paul's pretty much on his own these days but still continues "undaunted." #4 continues centered on industrial music with Consolidated and Apolitiq. (D-16r/CG/MG)

**TEEN MEAT** #6 ($1.50 from PO Box 161745, Sacramento, CA 95816): Too hip for words, this one features a lot of unknown folks in the Sacramento scene and seems to always have some sly innuendo in mind. For bigger names, try Vomit Launch and Harm Farm. They feature a hot dog hash recipe, a page of mimes, psychedelic calendars and more. (S-25/MG)

**TEXAS BEAT** Vol. 1 #10-11 ($20/12 issues from PO Box 4429, Austin, TX 78765): Reporting on the music scene all across Texas (though it still seems centered in the Austin area). They pick up on club gossip, review tons of new music, and let you know who's playing. #10 has an overview of Texas dance, while #11 features Jason McMaster. Recording is a continuing subject as well. (S-24t/MG)

☐**THROAT CULTURE** #2 ($4.00 from Rob O'Connor, PO Box 6105 Union, NJ 07083): This is the special Collector's Edition of this new accession to the music fanzine genre, because the entire issue is based on the infamous Lester Bangs, proto-punk-wild-man gonzo writer. These are remembrances, recollections, stories, "I Knew Him When..." pieces that are written by admirers, fans, friends, and assorted affiliates. Done with reverence but not schmaltz, it even includes a 4 song Flexi-disk with Bangs, the Honeymoon Killers, and more. A must for any Bangs devotee, or anyone who is at least curious about him. (S-82/CG)

☐**TOO HECTIC** #2 ($1 from 111 Botany St., Garfield, NJ 07026): This is mainly a music zine, though it opens with a few pages of anti-hunting editorial matter. The interviews are with Emotive Drive, Arrogant Response, the New Muppets, and others. Bob, the editor, seems to be well concerned with the health of his local scene. (S-18r/MG)

**TRADING POST** #9 (50¢ from Last Minute Productions,, c/o Chris Caggiano, 1737 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NJ 11385): Concise music trading publication with contributors sharing their music via extensive lists with hopes of trading with others. The copying isn't very good and the handwriting is worse, but the effort isn't wasted. (D-22/CG)

**TV EYE** Sept. 1990 (IRCs (?) from PO Box 17562, 54009 Salonica, GREECE): An all-Greek music zine which seems to cover mainly American and English groups. This issue has Tom Verlaine, Bullet LaVolta, and what appears to be a special section on Gothic music. (O-8t/MG)

☐**TWISTWORTHY!** #1(75¢ from Mark Twistworthy, 4030 Cypressdale Dr., Spring, TX 77388): Brandy new music zine that caught my eye because it was so darned neat! Considering the content, that's an accomplishment. There are interviews with members of Mudhoney, Agitators, Firehose, plus reviews, pics of live shows, and a curious influx of anti-automobile collage/propaganda. Good start. (D-20/CG)

**UNBROKEN CHAIN** Vol. 5 #4 ($2 from PO Box 8726, Richmond, VA 23226): A jam-packed zine of news and information for fans of the Grateful Dead. This issue of course devotes much space to the untimely death of Brent Mydland this summer. There's also much other news, from tours to possible keyboard replacements, reprinted articles to letters from true-blue Deadheads. (S-16r/MG)

**UNCUT FUNK** #2 ($3 from PO Box 732, N. College Park, MD 20740): After a stunning debut, Editor David Mills is back with more funkadelia. The lead-off editorial sets the tone for appreciating *now* what the grand masters of funk offered us years ago. Interviews with Bernie Worrell, Pedro Bell, and Run DMC are featured, plus another look at the "crimes" committed in three Florida counties. Articles reflect on the past, look forward to the future and generally enjoy music. (O-28t/CG)

**UNHINGED** #7 (£1.70 surface or £2 air from Paul, The Old Schoolhouse, Yatesbury, Nr. Calne, Wilts, SN11 8YE, UK): A fat zine of music with some tilt towards the garage and psychedelic scenes and an incredible number of reviews in some of the teeniest print around. Feature articles are printed larger, and this time include Alex Chilton, Green Pajamas (complete with flexidisc), Mazzy Star and Steve Wynn. Also includes some science fiction reviewing. (A4-52t/MG)

☐**UN NOM A COUCHER DEHORS** (Eric Cordier, Grande Rue, 27350 Routot, FRANCE): A very odd experimental music zine from France, including a twenty-minute 3" compact disk. The music is produced by things like altered hurdy-gurdy or maddening monotonic accordions, and there is some attempt to explain this as a combination of post-modernism and trans-nostalgia. Too confusing for me. The zine part is also full of abstract art. (A4-20t & CD/MG)

**THE URINAL** #3 (75¢ from Mike Farrell, 915 Johnson Hall, Richmond, VA 23220-8461): East Coast punk music coverage with new address since the longlost last issue. This issue leads off with an Unrest interview, reviews a batch of records, and closes with Trenchmouth. They also print the first part of a weird disjointed story. (S-8t/MG)

**VICIOUS HIPPIES FROM PANDA HELL** #10 ($1 from PO Box 34, Portland, OR 97207): Brightly-colored music reviews and interviews from the Northwest. Well, actually, the zine's from there but the music is from all over; the lead interview in #10 is with Australia's The Twenty Second Sect. They also chat with The Mummies and review a pile of stuff. (D-20r/MG)

**VOID** #1 ($1.50 from 5909 Alder St., Pittsburgh, PA 15232): A music zine with a very nice, mostly hand-lettered layout...something of the best of the underground comic aesthetic went into this one. There's stuff on Zorn and Sonic Youth, a few pages on skateboarding, a film review, trippy drawings, R. Crumb reprints...lots of stuff to catch the eye. A nice first effort. (S-40/MG)

**WAKE UP!** #6 ($20/4 issues from BP 5034, 24000 Perigueux Cedex, FRANCE): A fat new music zine that reminds me of **MRR** or Germany's **TRUST**—lots of info and reviews packed in. It comes with a 7" hard-vinyl record every issue, this one including Samiam and Sofa Head, among others. Inside they have Killdozer, Big Drill Car, a continuing series on the Doors, record and zine reviews, and more. (A4-72t/MG)

**WASTE PAPER** #28 (Free from 638 E. 13th Ave., Denver, CO 80203): No-nonsense reviews of indy music—local and otherwise. The editors love music and love describing it, so even if you haven't heard the Dwarves, it's fun to read about them and can appreciate their contributions. Some poorly drawn comics in here, too, and frankly leave me without a clue. (S-ss/CG)

**WATCHING SISTER VOMIT** Vol. 1 #4 ($1 from Under the Volcano [checks to CASH], PO Box 236, Neconset, NY 11767): A music scene zine that talks about unity while telling Nazi skins to get lost...this is for more reasonable sorts of skins, and other good folks. Vicious Beatniks are the main interview in this issue, and there's plenty of editorial material and a handful of reviews too. (D-12r/MG)

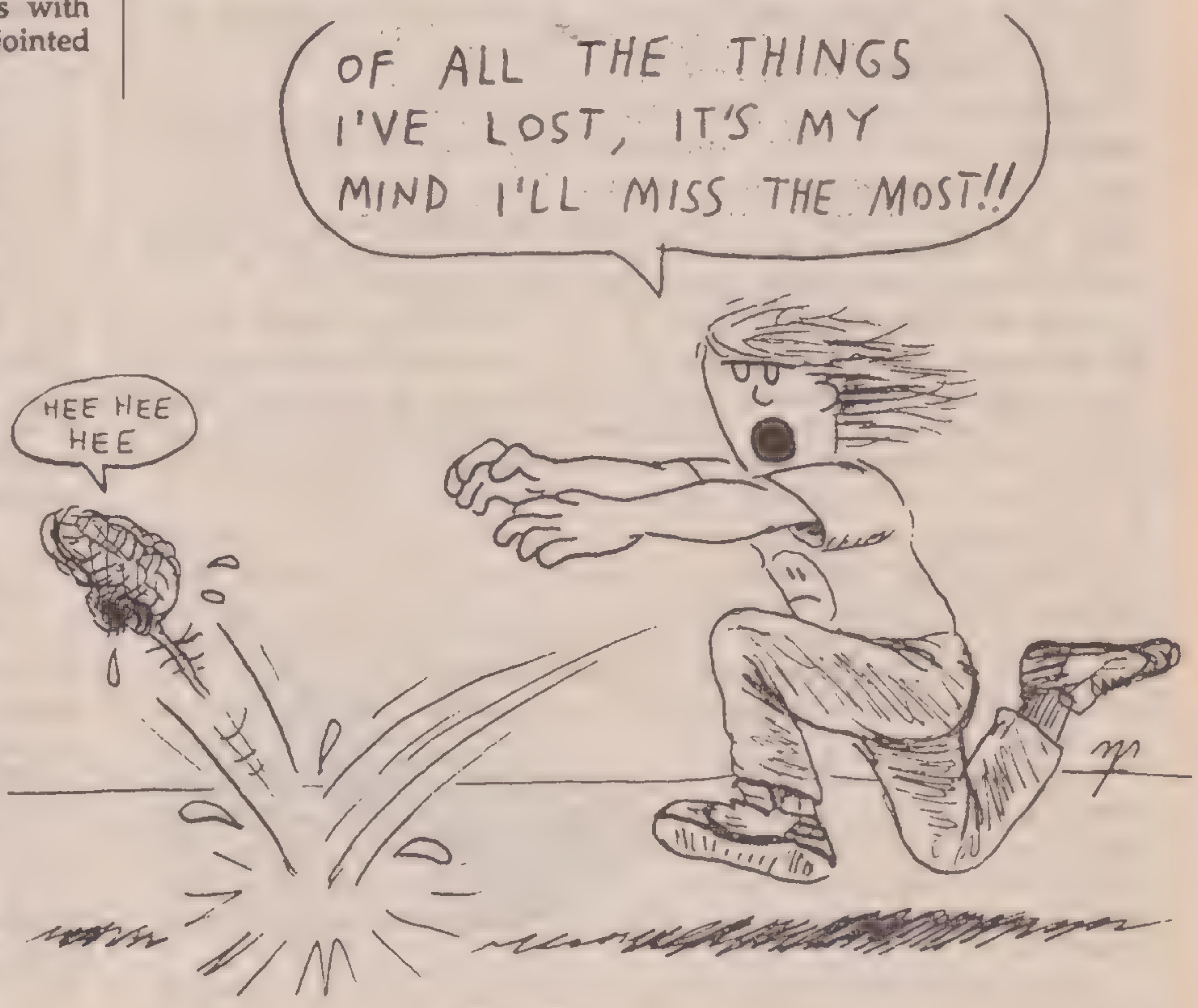
**WAVELENGTH** #119-120 ($15/yr from PO Box 15667, New Orleans, LA 70175): Jazz and other music from New Orleans and environs. #119 reports the amazing news that Rhino is now issuing disco collections—it's become history. #120 has Wynton Marsalis on the cover, and obits for Little Sonny Jones and Stevie Ray Vaughan on the inside. There's also more jazz history, record reviews from the bayou, and an article on the current status of DAT recorders. (S-40t/MG)

**WEIRD FLOWER** #2 ($1 from Jim McMartin, Ten Gore St., Toronto, ONT, M6J 2C6, CANADA): Guess this is somewhere around the music axis, with Buffalo Tom, Pixies and Jawbox being among the names that float to the top of the heap. But Jim looks at culture more widely, interviewing Mark Pauline, reprinting bizarre news, and so on. Withering to people he sees as posers or talentless. (S-18r/MG)

**WHITE NOISE** #28 ($1 from PO Box 1564, Point Roberts, WA 98281-1564): A Christian metal zine that actually originates in Canada. This issue has some straight talk from Shattered Image, an interview with Christian Image and another with Gary Parson of Painted Orange, and lots of little notes. (S-8r/MG)

**WIRE** Vol.9 #5 (Free from 2319 W. 45th #143, Seattle, WA 98103): This is the music newspaper covering much of the Seattle area plus the listeners of KCMU-FM. Interviews with Sonic Youth, Girl Trouble, the censorship/Helms issues and a pro vote for the value of video. (S-22/CG)

**YOUR FLESH** #20 ($3.50 from Peter Davis, PO Box 25146, Minneapolis, MN 55458-6146): This issue opens with a wild full-color XNO cover and just gets better from there. There's a Beefheart article with a list of unreleased projects and who to pressure for them, an interview with post-porn performance artist Annie Sprinkle and one with Sympathy for the Record Industry mogul Long Gone John, and articles about Dust Devils, His Name Is Alive, the Jesus Lizard and more. They also feature more reviews of new indie music than almost anyone else. (S-92t/MG)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☐**1981** ($3.00 from Warren A. Seager, 433 Alameda, Padre Serra St., Santa Barbara, CA 93103): Some surfin' comics from Pluggy Seager including Freeway Funnies, Earth Funnies and...what else? Tubular Funnies. The art and writing is laid back but clever, even if it smacks of S. Californiaism. Pluggy will hopefully be back at it with **1991**. (S-22/CG)

**5 O'CLOCK SHADOW #4** (75¢ & a stamp & Age Statement from Not Available Comics, Matt Feazell, 3867 Bristow, Detroit, MI 48212): A medley of work from some of minicomics' finest. Matt Feazell presents a short and topical Cynicalman, Matt Madden gives us a Big Boy sunken in disturbing memories of past sexual exploits, and Diana Salles has a really interesting drug trip party to relate. Fun stuff. (M-24/MG)

**ADVENTURES OF A DEAD TEENAGER #6** (75¢ from A.C. Rempt, 260 E. Monroe St., Pomona, CA 91767): The final chapter of the story of Jesus (pronounced "Hay-soos"), who ended up in this strange murderous episode through no fault of his own. The ending is very surreal, and ends on a moderately upbeat note, with the whole world waiting to be settled again. It's nice to see a small press series actually work out. (D-18/MG)

☐**ALVIN SCHLIEMAN: THE HIP MORTICIAN** (50¢ from Mark Plaid, 4487 290th, Toledo OH 43611): Poor misunderstood Alvin is an 84-year old mortician who reminds his boss of Maynard G. Crebs but looks like Hunter Thompson to me. He's hip but he probably has the wrong job. What will happen to Alvin at 84? (M-7/CG)

**ANOTHER STANZINE** (2 stamps or trade & age statement from Yessir, 1408 Greendale Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15239): The tone for this comic is set by the fact that the profits are going to buy a penile implant for Toby the dog. There are balls jokes, fart jokes, and a few pages of American hypocrites. If you ask, you can get a copy of the mini **SEVEN KEYS TO A HAPPY MARRIAGE** with any order. (D-16/MG)

FROGG
©1990 DAVID LEE INGERSOLL

**ART HETERO** (75¢ from Skin Graft, PO Box 738, St. Charles, MO 63302-0738): A weird little comic, headed "Gun b/w Date", about the author's fascination with Patty Hearst. The weird thing is that he never realized it until years later, when he saw how this image of berets and guns and bank robbery had guided his life. Introspectively odd. (M-12/MG)

**ASHES #3** ($2.50 plus Age Statement from John Bergin, PO Box 45182, Kansas City, MO 64111): More tortuous content and inner terror from Bergin, who gets more dolorous with each issue. Stark, minimal comics with no balloons, only tiny words like "Then she died," which leave you feeling a lot colder than a two page explanation. John also branches off into more prose in this issue—a dark story with gloomy afterthoughts. (S-48/CG)

☐**ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT #1** ($1 from DCC, 38 Reservoir Street, Holden, MA 01520): Portfolio of pics, mostly stylish busty cartoon gals. Interesting here was the use of photos in backgrounds. Suffused with eroticism and gloomy coolness, this could be quite striking with a story line. (D-12/JR) **ATX #TS-83** (50¢ from Steven J. Brooks, PO Box 2507, Cambridge, MA 02238-2507): A pair of anticensorship comics featuring women characters drawn in a strange sort of stylized fashion. They poke fun both at other comics and at censors, and are sort of cute. (S-2/MG)

**BACKWOODS** "Best of" ($1 from Chris Purcell, 6 Riverside Dr., Asheville, NC 28801): This is the "best of" issue where Chris displays some pretty intriguing comic art of his and others. Silent panels of angles of a dark basement, light poetry and a takeoff on Sam Spade appear. At first art seems haphazard, but prolonged attention to it brings unity. Check out "Scenes From Lives That Aren't Your"—one panel sketches we can all recognize. (HL-23/CG)

**BILLY #1** ($1 (?) from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre de Coubertin #9, Montreal, QC, H1V 1A4, CANADA): The story of a little boy who lives in a large wooden box and his sex-starved mother. Much of this is pretty mean-spirited, Kurt taking the ball of human inhumanity and running with it. (D-32/MG)

☐**BOB** (1 25¢ stamp from Jim Conatser, 113 N. Booth St., Dubuque, IA 52001): This is a short comic story of Bob the Mailman, a man who drinks too much until powerful forces get his life back under control. For the same stamp Jim will even throw in a bizarre postcard and a short poem. What a deal! (M-4+/MG)

☐**BONK** ($1.50 from Shakti Comics, PO Box 656, Hadley, MA 01035): A one-shot comic that starts off with a busted-up relationship and then proceeds to change the faces of the people involved in all manner of bizarre ways. The story seems to take on a life of its own from that point, escaping the artist entirely, using him only to draw ever-more complex embellishments on the page. (S-16/MG)

☐**THE BOSTON COMICS NEWS #16-17** ($17/24 issues from PO Box 44-1289, Somerville, MA 02144): A biweekly collection of cartoons, political and otherwise. In addition to carrying political cartoons from all over, they get Calvin & Hobbes and Outlands and Joe Bob and a few other familiar faces. The best parts of the paper without all that news stuff. (T-16t/MG)

☐**BRAIN GRAVY #1** ($1 from Freak Productions, 334 Evergreen #4, East Lansing, MI 48823): A new comic with a couple of features. I really enjoyed Necroman, a dead dude who hangs around helping others get used to the afterlife, which proves to be a pretty serious matter, no matter how lighthearted this strip. PotheadMan is pretty funny too. (HL-32/MG)

☐**BRING ME THE HEAD OF ED DUCK** (75¢ from A.C. Rempt, 260 E. Monroe St., Pomona, CA 91767): A strange little comic by S.F. Lossing, featuring the New Clear Boy and Pip, whose structure was mutated by the radiation so that he actually floats in the air. They're a pomo pair, arguing with one another but still staying together as they search for the magic duck brains. Hip oddness. (D-12/MG)

☐**BUCK ROGERS** #1-3 ($2.95 from TSR, 1554 S. Sepulveda Blvd. #103, Los Angeles, CA 90025): A comic book from a games company? Well, yes—this is a three part series introducing the original Buck Rogers and the way he makes it to the 25th century. But it's also three small board games, built into the comics and with complete rules supplied. Nice art, cute games, a few plugs for other TSR products, this should go over well with gamers who aren't collectors. (S-40/MG)

☐**THE BUDDHIST COMIC BOOK** (60¢ from Nullification Presentations, 1998 Huntington, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236-1918): A basic cartoon presentation of Buddhist teachings from the creator of **SKUZZ BUTTS**. He takes us through the noble truths and the wheel of karma and all that, ending with a first person account of a sort of blitz meditation training course. Looks good to me. (D-8/MG)

☐**THE CARTOON PROJECT** #1 ($1 from PO Box 36, Libertyville, IL 60048): I'm not quite sure what to make of this miscellany of carved eraser stamps, drawn comics, and poorly written dialog balloons, sometimes with no comics attached. The characters include a Zulu, some small people, and an ever present lawn eel. I think it's a group project, but who can tell. (D-16/CG)

**CATALOGUE GIRLS** (2 stamps & Age Statement from Allen Salyer, PO Box 1551, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1551): Another collection of drawings of women by Allen, who's constantly exploring new poses and new arrangements of light and dark. They range from mildly seductive to downright pornographic, with the emphasis on the former. (D-16/MG)

**THE CHANCE REVIEW** #2 ($1 from Chance Productions, 10767 Jamacha Blvd. # 263, Spring Valley, CA 92078): A pleasing little number with poems and pics in the Dada style, including two particularly fine ones by Matt Levin. (M-16/JR)

**CHAPEL ZONE** ($2 FROM dcc, 38 Reservoir St., Holden, MA 01520): Rambling tale of a mailman, a loon in a pith helmet, a dominatrix, a smoke machine and a high-school humiliation. Promising, cute, but too plot-diffuse to really kick in. (D-12/JR)

**CHAOS COMIX** #17 (25¢ & postage from Randy Babichuk, 821 Wollaston St., Victoria, BC, V9A 5A9, CANADA): Lots of punk rock comics, many starring the skinhead Suicide Al, a violent sort of dude (but don't call him violent!). There's also cops, drunken hardcore girls, some clever punk rats, and plenty of cynical commentary on the scene. Funny stuff. (D-20/MG)

**CLAIRE** #2 (50¢ from 10767 Jamacha Blvd. # 263, Spring Valley, CA 92077): A rather uncomplex and quite wordless tale of a woman who dreams of life in an Arcadia. No real plot, just scenes of bathing and petting animals. Naieve in style. (M-16/JR) ☐**THE COLLECTED SOCIALIST TURTLE** #1-7 (50¢ each from Colin Upton, 6424 Chester, Vancouver, BC, V5W 3C3, Canada): The events in the life of a curmudgeonly maxi-mini socialist turtle whose ideology gets thwarted left and right by commie squirrels, imperialist eagles and a naive fox. Read up on progressive politics before you start. (M-8/CG)

**THE COMICIST** #10 ($1.50 from Rocket Graphics, PO Box 233, Loveland, OH 45140): Comics news and reviews from the pen of Jim Pack, who's been around the small press for quite a while now. In addition to a whole bunch of reviews, this issue provides some advice on distribution, an engaging lettercolumn, and publicity for a number of small outfits. (HL-20t/MG)

**COMIC UPDATE** #119 (50¢ from Frank G. Lloyd Jr., PO Box 486, Richwood, WV 26261-0486): Another day, another new publisher for the Update, or so it seems. Frank puts out a relatively unassuming version, though this one was livened up by a reprint from #2, way back when. There's also a useful section of COAs and other news. (M-8/MG)

☐**COMIKAZE** #1 ($3 plus Age Statement from PO Box 1145, Royal Oak, MI 48073): Independent comics and music are the focus here, with lots of enthusiasm and talent to help it along. Interviews with Xaime Hernandez, Chester Brown and Big Chief, editors contributing their own comics, comic news and reviews and updates and lots o' music. If the premiere issue is any indication, this will be a valuable source for an indy comic info 'round the world. (S-37/CG)

**COMICS TRASH** #7 (DM 5 from F.Engel Natruperst. 151, 45 Osnabruck. WEST GERMANY): Very aptly titled, this is a hip, modern often German-language EC: twisted little morality tales with gruesome revenge conclusions. Being German it's all done with that extra level of intensity. Good of its kind. (A4-50/JR)

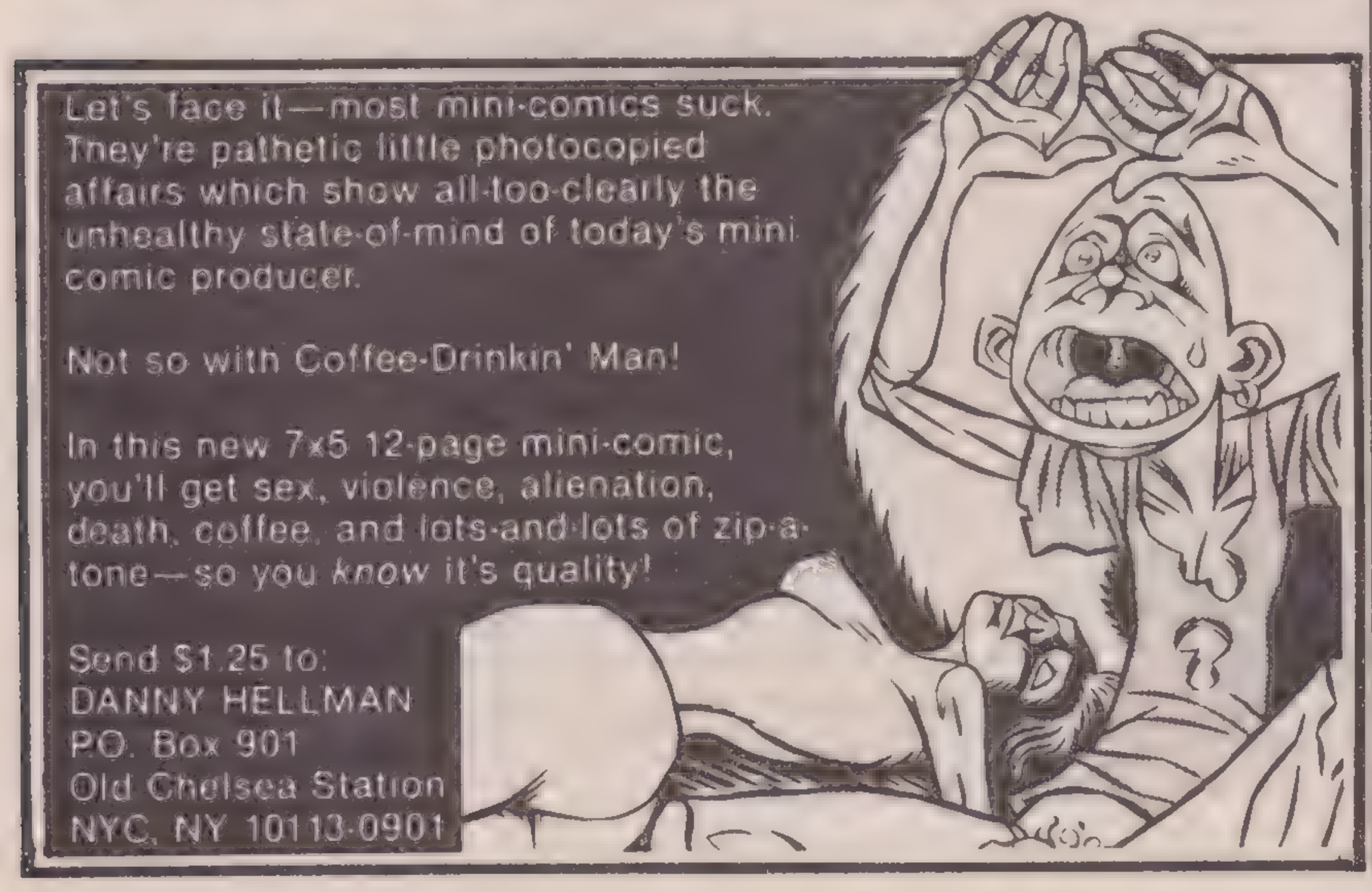
**COMMISSIONS SPECIAL** #2 ($2.50 from Kjartan Arnorsson, PO Box 32292, Tucson, AZ 85751): A collection of funny-animal sexual acrobatics drawn by Kjartan on commission for various friends. The main piece here is for Ed Zolna, showing a very macho bull reduced to size by conspiring women. Lots of hot sex and improbably organs here. (S-22/MG)

**CRUMP COMICS** #5 (75¢ from PO Box 1837, Upland, CA 91785): Confusing comics which probably made sense to their artist, but seem dirty windows onto a private world. There are some good bits, though, like the Invisible Man giving instructions on eating cheap and an old joke about commitment and cockroaches. They also print an interview with Jamie Hernandez. (D-24/MG)

☐**CULT OF PSYCHODEAD** ($2.85 from Kenneth B. Haas III, 4600 SE 6th St., Des Moines, IA 50315): Dark humor in a zombified future. On the one side you have an undead rock star and fast food king, on the other a Federal agent with plenty of firepower and unorthodox methods of employing it. In between, animated organs, slave girls, hard times in the amusement park, and hamburgers with a mind of their own, all wrapped in a wild dark color cover. (S-32/MG)

**DADA** #1 ($1 from Chance Productions, 10767 Jamacha Blvd., # 263, Spring Valley, CA 92708): As the title suggest, this was a meaningless jumbel of words and images in the style pioneered in 1916. With quote from Jean Arp. (M-16/JR) **THE DEATH OF ANTISOCIALMAN** #2-3 (50¢ from Not Available Comics, 3867 Bristow, Detroit, MI 48212): Further adventures of Cynicalman and Antisocialman. The latter proves not to be dead at the start of the second episode, but might be in bad shape by the end. Toxic waste and stickfigures might just mix. #3 has some bizarre funeral scenes and brings in a welter of subplots. (M-8/MG)

**DUNGAR THE BARBARIAN** #36 (75¢ from Dimestore Stories, PO Box 40391, St. Petersburg, FL 33743): Ian Shires deserves credit for keeping this series running for so long, and for finding artists



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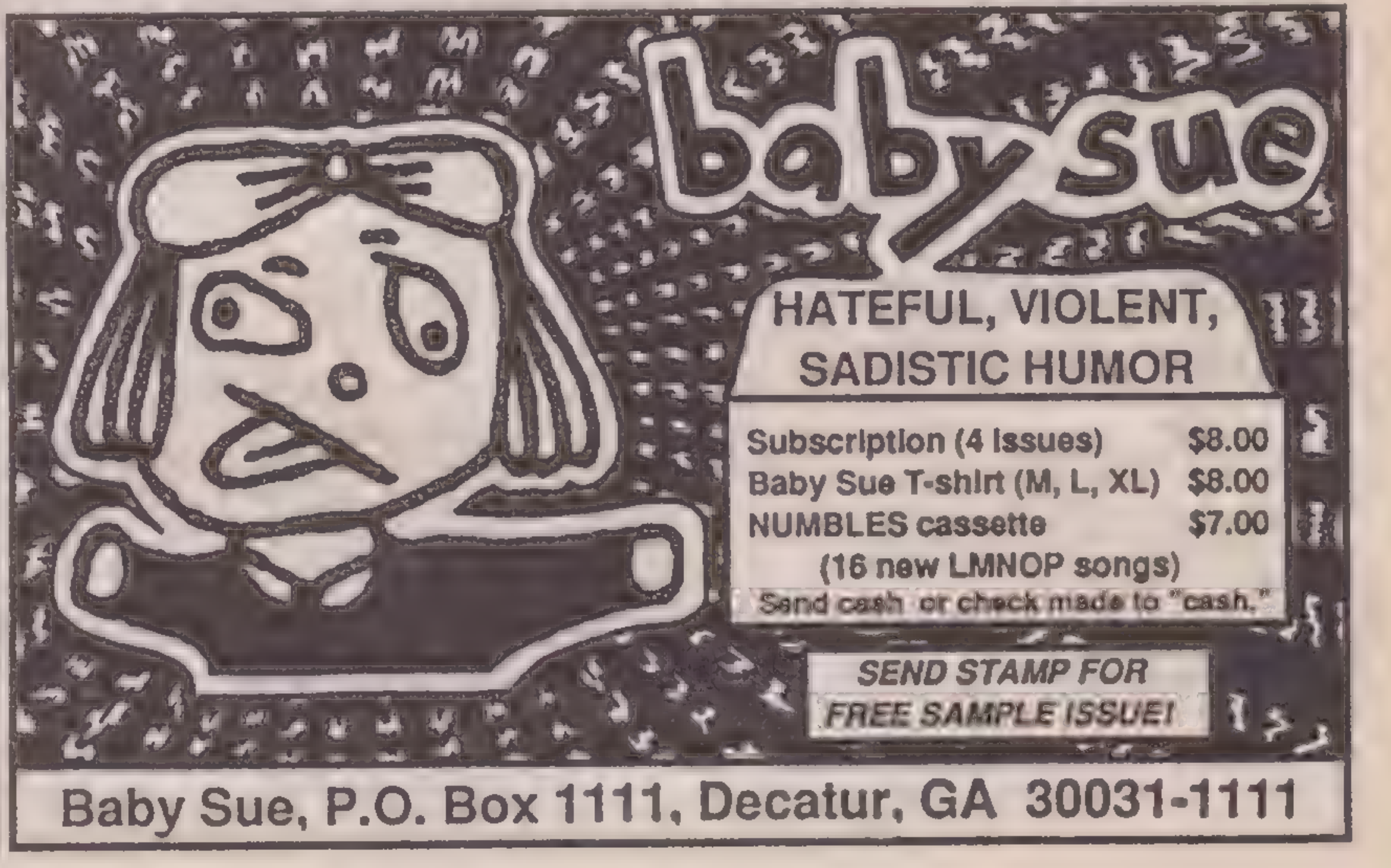

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who can finally do it justice. Still not a pro book, but one of the best small press minis around, **DUNGAR** features a continuing tale of sword and sorcery that's beginning to move more swiftly of late. (M-16/MG)

☐**ELECTROID** 1 #1 (50¢ from Greg Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): Another small superheroic minicomic. This one features Electroid 1, a being apparently made up of thick pencil lines, and a radioactive snowman. People who deal drugs to preschoolers don't come off well in this one. (M-8/MG)

☐**EXTREME MAGAZENE** #3(*Trade of Obscure/Different Comics Only* from Tommy Hojager Olesen, Marius Holst Gade 6,4.th, DK-8700 Horsens, Denmark): For those who love obscure comics, Tommy has compiled a review zine for those purposes. He's very enthusiastic about the genre and offers comments, reviews and contact addresses for those listed. (D-12/CG)

**FADE TO BLACK** #8 50¢ from Frank G. Lloyd Jr., PO Box 486, Richwood, WV 26261-0486): This is the sort of thing that Wertham always said comics readers would go in for, self-described "violent smut". This issue includes a patricide, some torture with dentist's drills, and a Halloween theme which concentrates on killing the little brats. (M-8/MG)

**FAMOUS BUS RIDES** #1-4 (40¢ from Colin Upton, 6424 Chester, Vancouver, BC, V5W 3C3 CANADA): The bus becomes a salon as big as life wherein the author/hero encounters, in #2, a religious sourpuss, in #3 a whole lot of old hippies—he's kind of mean to them, but it was funny by sheer power of pettiness. #4's a rather existential account of witnessing a fender-bender. Upton's gift is for close life observation. (M-8/JR) **FEARFUL! ENNUI** 60¢ from Nullification Presentations, 1998 Huntington, Grosse Pte Woods, MI 48236-1918): Another mini of desolation and a being "lost in a frozen landscape of terror and apathy". Jeff Gillette is real good at pointing out the futility of life and everything, making it seem as if there is no reason to get out of bed at all. Bleak. (M-16/MG)

☐**FEATURE FUNNIES** #1 ($1.50 from Dan W. Taylor, 1833 Guntle Rd., New Lebanon, OH 45345): A new comic collection featuring quite a bit of cheesecake, including a sendup of a certain teen rock star. "Pseudobohemian Leather Princess" is another title here which stands out. Most of the jokes are strictly one-liners, but they all work, and what more can you ask for? (D-12/MG)

☐**GEON** (75¢ from Rick Howe, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): Subtitled "Protector of the Environment," this is the saga of former Roger Curtis, who was an environmental activist before he was recognized by the gods and promoted to Protector. Roger is an idealist, but is beset by circumstance and almost loses faith. Relevant topic, perhaps this is where we'll find our new heroes. (M-16/CG)

**GORE SHRIEK** Vol. 2 #2-2 1/2($3.25 and $2.25 respectively from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210-1391): Two nasty little comics in the tradition of all those classics that were responsible for the Comics Code and all that other claptrap. #2 is a delightful medley of scary stories, plenty of corpses and monsters and insanity, along with an interview with **FANGORIA** editor Anthony Timpone. #2 1/2 is a special limited edition featuring the art of Gurchain Singh, who can hang corpses with the best of them. (S-32/MG)

**THE GRAD** #3 ($1 from John Migliore, 17 Halam Ave., Hamilton, ONT, L8V 1Z2, CANADA): The Grad is sort of a superhero, a dead-black ghost in cap and gown. In this issue he flies around trying to find an old high school buddy who might have survived the disaster, only to get messed up with chainsaw cannibals and zombies. No movie is safe from the Grad. (D-16/MG)

**THE GRANVILLE STREET GALLERY** #1-7 ](50¢ from Colin Upton, 6424 Chester, Vancouver BC V5W 3C3, CANADA):A remarkable, satirical & closely observed series of mall-portraits. # 7 is derelicts, 6, punks, 5-1 are a wider variety, from businessmen to Sikhs to jugglers & beer-fiends. He has lucidly, and a little acidly, documented an entire world which all will recognise. Interesting. (M-12/JR)

☐**GRAPHIC** #1 ($5.20 from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210-1391): A lovely wraparound color cover features a couple of eerie and scary illustrations here; the tattoo via bug on the front cover is quite shocking. Inside the first graphic story concerns a tattoo also, with strange Lovecraftian overtones. There's a nasty little suicide feature to wrap up the contents too. Not a good bet for peace of mind. (S-36/MG)

**HAPPY NED** #8 (40¢ from Colin Upton, 6424 Chester, Vancouver, BC, V5W 3C3 CANADA): This episode chronicles part of Ned's escape from prison. Pretty entertaining, but too brief. Best part is the visitation by an angel in the form of a bunny rabbit—better than it sounds. (M-8/JR)

☐**HARVEYVILLE FUN TIMES!** Vol. 1 #1 ($2 from Mark Arnold, 1464 La Playa #105, San Francisco, CA 94122): A new zine for people who are into the "Harvey World" family of comics; Casper, Richie Rich, Sad Sack and all the rest. This issue has a basic Harvey history, a Baby Huey checklist, and some reprinted Harvey news. A promising start. (S-12/MG)

☐**HITLER ETAIT-IL UN LYCANTHROPE?** ($2.50 from Eric Braun, 2026 Des Ormes, St. Bruno, QUE, J3V 4G7, CANADA): I don't know what the title has to do with the contents, but then, the connection of the contents with anything but the theater of shock is tenuous. Eric draws with a sort of Woolvertonesque style, all nasty warts and dripping eyeballs and drownings and nastiness. Dangerous dark ideas. (D-16/MG)

**HODAGS AND HODADDIES** Vol. 1 #5-6 ($1 (?) from 285 Metropolitan #2, Brooklyn, NY 11211): Edgy comics work that reminds me a bit of the stuff that appears in **ART POLICE**, only with a bit more plot. The people here seem to be generally distorted, living on the edge of reality, and seeing the world through very peculiar preconceptions indeed. I enjoyed the letter to the President from Bart Kant in #5; a rather highbrow joke. #6 is scary, brains encased in gelatin cubes, people going slowly mad amidst the pressures of the city. (S-20/MG)

☐**HUMAN UNIT 12** #1-2 (75¢ from Shakti Comics, PO Box 656, Hadley, MA 01035): Human Unit 12 was designed to be a soldier but turned out to be something of a poet, so he escaped from the military clone vats to find life. In #1 we meet the other members of the group house where he is living, a group not unlike many communes I've seen. #2 has the Unit going back to nature to think for a while. Definitely out of the mainstream of indie comics. (M-16/MG)

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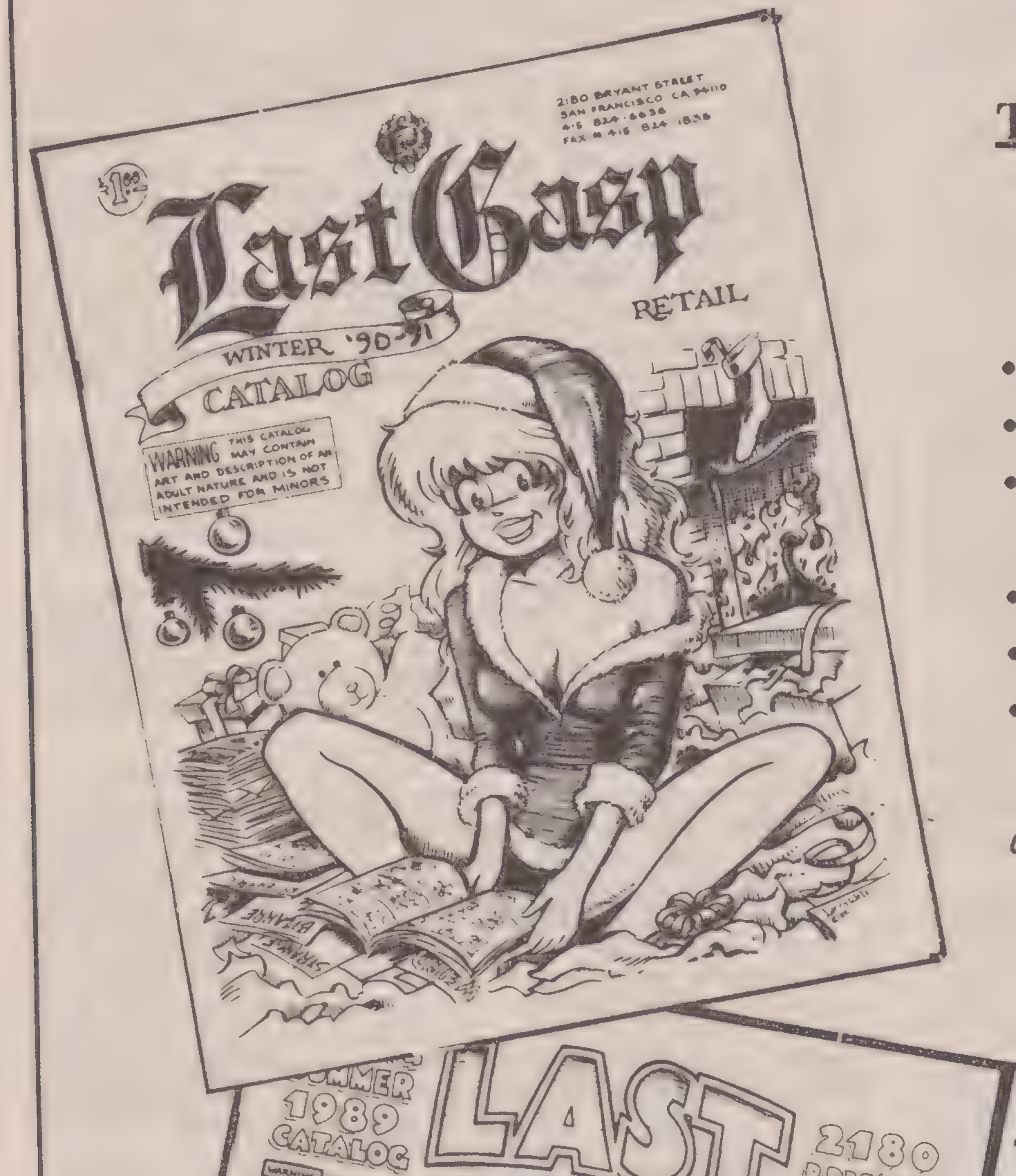
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☐**ILLUMINATUS! #1** ($2.50 & $1.25 p&h from Rip Off Press, PO Box 4686, Auburn, CA 95604; add sales tax in CA): A comic adaptation of the Shea & Wilson trilogy which starts off promisingly. I'm not sure people could follow the story just from this, but then, after half a dozen readings of the books I'm still figuring it out. Discordians and other troublemakers will love this, even though the b&w interior doesn't quite live up to our Technicolor dreams. (S36/MG)

☐**IMAGO #1** ($4 from Figment Press, PO Box 3566, Moscow, ID 83843-0477): Comics in a SF and fantasy mode. There are a few short stories thrown in here as well as the pretty women in scanty clothing and the astronauts dealing with the ultimate computer. Chuck Bordell starts up an interesting-looking fantasy serial in this first issue, with an appropriately nasty wannabe ruler. (D-56t/MG)

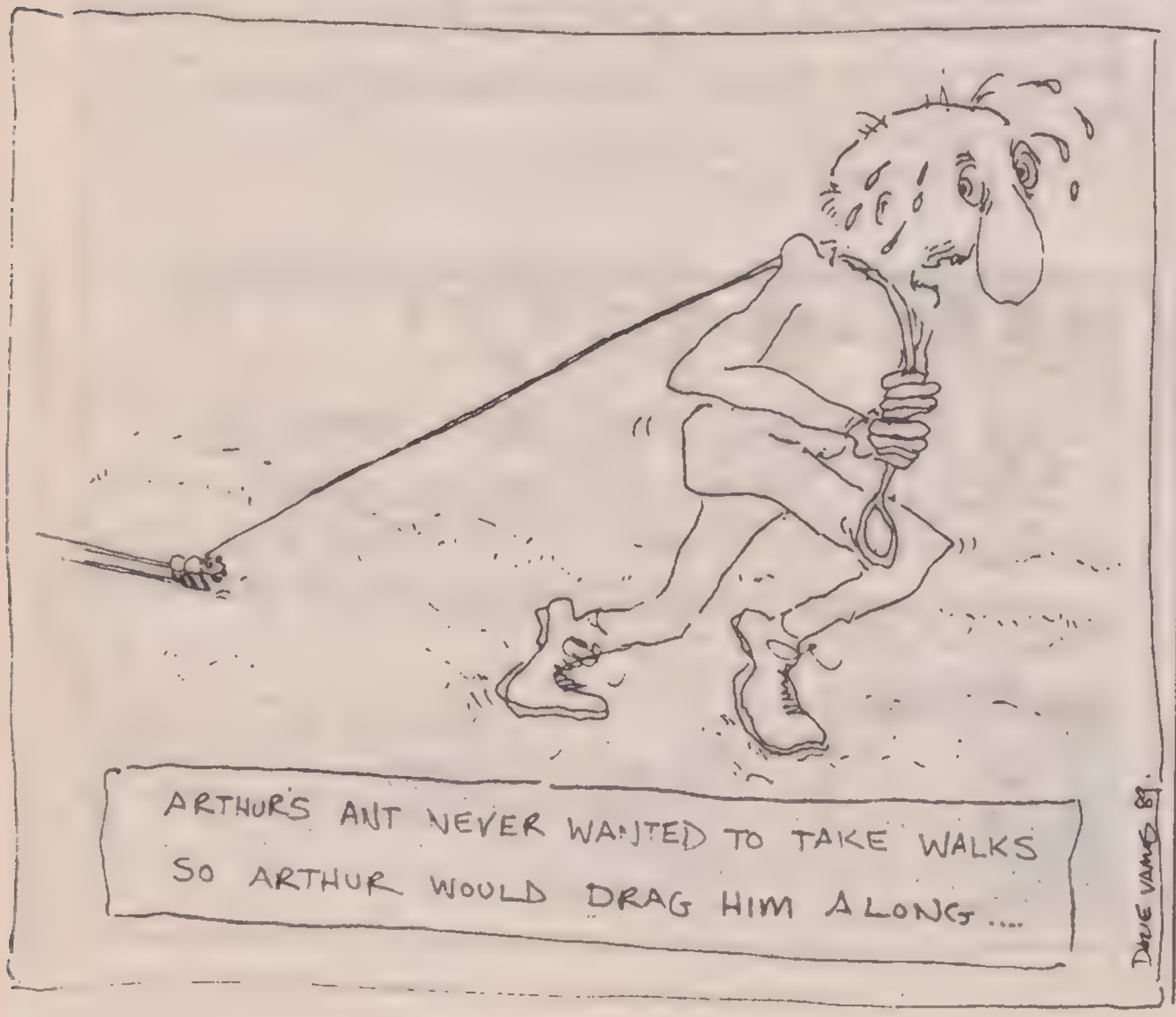
**A JAM OF SPOT #1-4** (50¢ from Colin Upton, 6424 Chester, Vancouver, BC, V5W 3C3): Spot is the rabbit in Colin's **HAPPY NED** series of minicomics, unfortunately dead as a doornail after one unfortunate episode. In these minis, other artists present their Spots, from rotting corpses to agents in hell to jars of jam to risen from the dead Spots. A bizarre comics community habit. (M-8/MG)

☐**THE JUSTICE BRIGADE #1** ($2 from Richard A. Martel Jr., PO Box 211253, Salt Lake City, UT 84121-9998): The origin story of yet another bunch of superheroes. It's no sillier than most such stories tend to be, though the art is a bit cruder than you'll find in the mainstream. It remains to be seen what Richard will do with his characters. (S-24)

☐**THE JUST SAY NO TO TUNA BOOK** (50¢ from Argus IG, PO Box 44802, Indianapolis, IN 46244): A microcomic of social activism. It starts off with an explanation of purse seining and dolphin setting, the tuna fishing practices that kill dolphins. It goes on to argue for a continuing boycott of tuna—even tuna caught without harming dolphins—as a way to keep up the pressure on the international fishing industry. But why not keep it up to protect the tuna? (MM-24/MG)

**KARNO'S KLASSICS #32** ($1 & Age Statement from Kjartan Arnorsson, PO Box 32292, Tucson, AZ 85751): Kjartan is back with more salacious comics. This time, he introduces the "Porno Babies", and Saturday morning cartoons will never be the same again. Overdeveloped explicit animal critters that will bring blood to the face of any adolescent boy. (D-12/MG)

**KING-CAT #21-22** (35¢ & stamp from John Porcellino, 1954 Brookside Lane, Hoffman Estates, IL 60194): In response to allegations made in a previous FF that his drawing style wasn't all it could be, Mr. Porcellino invented the strip "Well Drawn Funnies" for #21, in which he ably and amusingly answers the allegation. Whatever his aesthetic shortcomings, he has a fine sense of humor as much other successful and pleasingly rendered silliness in this issue indicates. Also available for $1 is **KING-CAT CLASSIX** Vol. 1, a collection of the best from previous issues. (D-10/JR)


ARTHUR'S ANT NEVER WANTED TO TAKE WALKS
SO ARTHUR WOULD DRAG HIM ALONG....
DAVE VAMS 89

**LA DEPECHE** No. 5 (2 IRCs (?) from ACIBD c.p. 37, succ. Beaubien, Montral, PQ H2G 3C8 CANADA): The journal of the Association of Creators and Intervenors of the Comic Strip, La Depeche is a newsletter for the association that spends most of its time on news about the comic strip in Quebec and the artists who make them. Most of the comics the newsletter discusses are fairly mainstream, but there is also a review column on underground comics (which mentions that mini-comics were the subject of the column in the previous issue). Everything is in French, which assures you that this is a good source for information of Quebecois comic art. (L-8t) (Review by Geof Huth)

☐**LIFE AND LOVES OF THE AVERAGE PANTHER #1** (25¢ from Nat Gertler, 12C MadisonDr., Maple Shade, NJ 08052): This cute animal mini deals with the phenomenon of stardom and the desire to impress. The drawing's pretty crude, but I found the plotting and twists rather pleasing. (M-8/JR)

**L.E.D.C. #7**(50¢ from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre De Coubertin #9, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H1V 1V4): A sad little story about a poor fellow who becomes obsessed with a TV anchor newswoman. He loses his mind is eventually quashed by Toasterman. Sorry to ruin the ending. (M-7/CG)

**LORD HORROR #2** ($4 & Age Stetement from The Edge, PO Box 1106, Chelmsford, CM1 2SF, ENGLAND): A gory comic that has caused some fuss, and an obscenity prosecution, in its native land. Lord Horror is this death-dealing scoundrel, here wrapped up with oriental killers, apart from a brief sojourn in Hell. Gore galore, and painstaking artwork. (A4-40/MG)

☐**LUMPY #1-3** (40¢ from 7845 Woodridge Ln., Bremerton, WA 98310): Lumpy is this sort of angularly clumsy dog critter, who gets into various surreal adventures. In #1, some chicken from his refrigerator begins trashing his house; #3 sees him as Lord of the Lemmings, who look more like worms with legs. Very odd. (M-8/MG)

**MARVELOUS MARTHA'S COMICS AND STORIES #6** ($2 from Joel Orff, Box 10696, Minneapolis, MN 55458-3696): One of the funnest comics around. The fun starts with an editorial detailing the passion these folks have for Clint Howard (of "Gentle Ben" fame) and then travels the biways of the mystery experience in this, their mystery issue. Tales of Clown detectives, poltergeists in sisters bedrooms and one page shorts that play weirdness on our heads are all here, as well as a fable/poem about a face cobbler that should be read at parties. Comics from real people. (D-44/CG)

☐**MEN FROM URANUS #1** (Trade from Steve Stwalley, 141 Green Mt. Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245): Don't be misled, this comic is not about men from Uranus. It might be about men from the artist's anus, though. Doodles and scribbles make up the most part, with main character Loopy Bird flying in and out of panels here and there. (M-16/CG)

☐**MENG & ECKER #1** ($3 from The Edge, PO Box 1106, Chelmsford, CM1 2SF, ENGLAND): A spinoff from the **LORD HORROR** series, featuring two of Horror's henchmen. The tale is a wild medley of racism, sexual minorities, bloody decapitations, speeches in Parliament, and other unsavory activities. Something to offend most anyone, especially if they can figure out all the British references. Dangerously fascinating. (A4-40/MG)

**MIDDLEMAN** Adam Moes ($1 from 8150 LaPlaza Ave., Cotuti CA 94931-4261): Cosmic black & white images, archetypal forms of birth, death, thought &c. A lot of energy and refelction in these, but they'll need a lot more academic polish to deliver the messages they seem to be carrying. (M-24/JR)

☐**MANIPULATION OF THE MASSES #1** ($1 from 42 Somerset, Montgomery, IL 60538): A ragged and largely impenetrable collage filled with darkness death and Christian mottoes. This is I think part one of a Salvation story. If Dostoevsky had made a comic book at the age of 4 it might look like this. (S-8/JR)

**MOTORCHILD #5 & 6** (25¢ from POB 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-067): A brief morality tale of a turtle with credit cards and attendant debts, who builds a robot to do his work for him. The Characters are almost Hensonesque in their cuteness—but at least they kiss. Mildly amusing and quite harmless. In 6 cute reptiles agonise about love as mediated by the telephone. A shaggy dog story on the awfulness of communicating. Didn't quite work. (D-8/JR)

□**THE NEBBISH CHRONICLES #1** (50¢ from Mike Taylor, Rt. 5, Box 2038, Phenix City, AL 36867): A sort of nightmarish tale of a loser who commits murders and then has to live with it—on someone else's terms. Kind of bleak and the copying isn't the greatest, but it's only the first issue. Also contains some fine remarks on the state of our "freedoms" and a plea to get in touch with them to combat the PMRC and othersuch types. (M-6/CG)

□**NEON MESSIAH** (50¢ & a stamp from Randy Moore, Earth Studio, 601 Feltz, Bldg. H #5, Perryville, MO 63775): Another mini of Randy's high-contrast art, with sexy women, science fictional situations, images from the unconscious, and more. Cool design work. (M-8/MG)

□**NEW EXPERIMENT #5** ($1(?) from Alberto, Rua Parana, Lote 15, Quadra 1, Santa Cruz da Serra, CEP 25240, RJ, Brazil): Hard to explain, but this comic zine is written in English by somebody who's not very familiar with the language, but knows enough sexual slang to get by. The stories, because of the language barrier, are not understandable, except for the appearance of female genitalia and garter belts. Have to give him credit for tackling English, though. (D-20/CG) **PLAYGROUND #1** ($2.50 from Caliber Press, 621-B S. Main St., Plymouth, MI 48170): A strange and wonderful comic from the minds and pens of Kathryn Kuder and Stuart Immonen. I guess you could call it dreamy, or surreal, but neither captures the feel of the crisp art and baffling scene changes. Reminds me a bit of a Jerry Cornelius novel, and a bit of some experiments I've made in lucid dreaming—all of which is to say that I spent a lot of time puzzling over this, and enjoyed doing so. (S-32/MG)

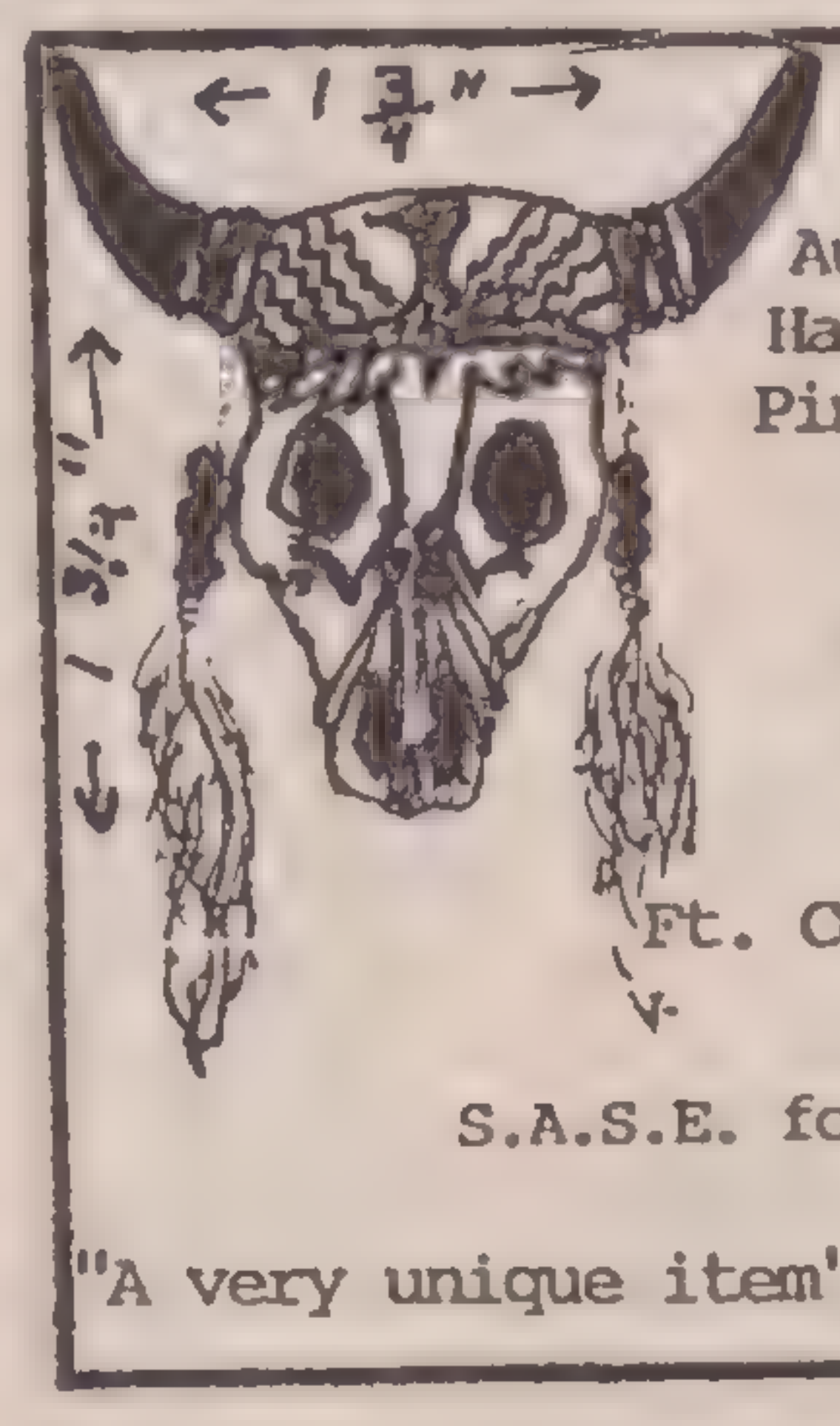
□**PMS AND DAVE** (60¢ & a stamp & Age Statement from Nullification Presentations, 1998 Huntington, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236-1918): A nasty little minicomic featuring a pair of fed-up women who kidnap some nebbish from the bookstore in the mall and proceed to have some hot action with him. You young guys might think this sounds like fun, but I guarantee you won't be laughing when the denouement rolls around. (M-12/MG)

**POUND POUND POUND** (25¢ from Rev. Samuel, 253 Alexander Street, Carriage House, Rochester, NY 14607): A rather inventively drawn comic—the strongest metaphors are artistically realised with surreal literalness, making the whole piece dreamlike. It's the story of wishing your headache on your ex-lover—who gave it to you in the first place. Anyone who's been in the Rev's shoes will savor the high polish he gives them. Nasty & neato. (M-8/JR)

**RICKY REVENGE #3** ($1 from PO Box 6891, Athens, GA 30604): A comic with no socially redeeming features, but lots of the other sort. Ricky is this adolescent twerp who enjoys causing mayhem and trouble. The book features Halloween (complete with razors in the apples), bulimia, sex, defecation, pants-wetting, and torturing small animals. Ick. (S-28/MG)

**RILEY COUNTRY** (50¢ from William Dockery, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): A confusing mini collaboration between PD Wilson and Carol Horn, perhaps loosely related to the equally confusing "Riley Country" album. It features Riley dropping out of society, electrical symbols, misplaced gurus, and other inscrutable happenings. (M-8/MG)

□**A ROMP WITH BURNS AND ALLEN** (50¢ & a stamp from Dave Matthews, 226 Columbia Dr., Aliquippa, PA 15001): This one started life as a 1940s "Tijuana Bible", but don't let that get you hot, because Dave has altered it somewhat. The dirty parts of the pictures have been "computer scrambled", sort of like happens to sexy videos when they're shown on the national news. And the dialogue has been changed from ribald to silly. Very odd. (M-12/MG)



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**ROTTEN PEACHES #2** (50¢ & age statement from PO Box 674948, Marietta GA 30067-0007): Pleasant, nicely drawn comics of condoms, pregnancy and of course sex. The last (non-sex) tale, about leaving home, is nicely pointed and quite well imaged. Really a cut above. One would like to see the artist integrate the sex, which he does with evident glee, in the context of sustained narration, which he does with greater subtlety. (D-12/JR) **ROUND HOUSE COMICS #2** (50¢ from Victor Gates, 552 Lancelot Drive, North Salt Lake, UT 84054-2230): The continuing saga of Geepy and Maxine in Mormon country, and of "that rare breed of men who isn't afraid to admit he likes BIG WOMEN." Victor's characters are round in more ways than one—they have feelings, ideas, shortcomings. This time Geepy meets Alan, a young black man who comes to Utah for college and the chance to meet BWOC (Big Women On Campus). Sensitive. Kind of like the **DYKES TO WATCH OUT FOR** of Fat Admirers. (M-15/CG)

□**SELF-INDULGENT COMICS #1-12**(50¢ each from Colin Upton, 6424 Chester, Vancouver, BC, V5W 3C3, Canada): Okay, so they are self-indulgent, but they are also stories that really happened, drawn consistently well and with pathos. Either Colin's helping a friend, defending his art, witnessing a crime or stealing back his family's mail box. Very much like a drawn conversation. (M-8/CG)

□**SHADOW PATH** ($2 from Laughing Coyote Press, 5338 Heather Glen, Garland, TX 75043): A wild comics offshoot from the Barr Wars universe (a sort of artists free-for-all in comic form)_. It's got a Klingon-like Centaur, wandering around a spaceship and getting into all sorts of trouble due to a testosterone rush. More tasteful and certainly more bizarre than that might lead you to imagine, though. (D-22/MG)

**SOCKS, DREGS & ROCKING CHAIRS #3** (60¢ from Geof Huth, RD 5, Currybush Rd., Schenectady, NY 12306): This is Geof's occasional comics title, which mutates with every issue. This time it's in a micro-mini format with some foldout pages, and features a work by J. Ryan. The main theme is that with the Cold War gone, we don't know what to do with ourselves any more. (MM-18/MG)

**SKUZZ BUTTS #II-IV** ($1 from Nullification Presentations, 1998 Huntington, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236-1918): Fred and Hale are back again, in #2 with Hale getting married to the delectable but catty Moana. The wedding doesn't take, giving the boys another chance to be gross and philosophical in each other's company. A zen version of the Honeymooners. #3 wallows in coughing and nastiness, while #4 crosses smut with philosophy and existentialism. (D-8/MG)

**SLUM DOG #3** ($3 from Peter Sandmark, 5974 Waverly, Montreal, QUE, H2T 2Y3, CANADA): Strange dog-based comics that deal with everything from fleas to interstellar travel to going to hell. Other Canadian artists also kick in, with bits of Julie Doucet and Luc Giard being prominent. Could be one of the mascots of the nineties. (D-40/MG)

**TALES OF FANTASY #7** ($1.25 from Larry Johnson, 9 St. Peter Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130): This issue features famed character Zooy braving the evil Morpho the circus master and his nasty plot to steal all the children for his miniature clown act. This issue doesn't have the same flavor as many other issues, but nevertheless stands

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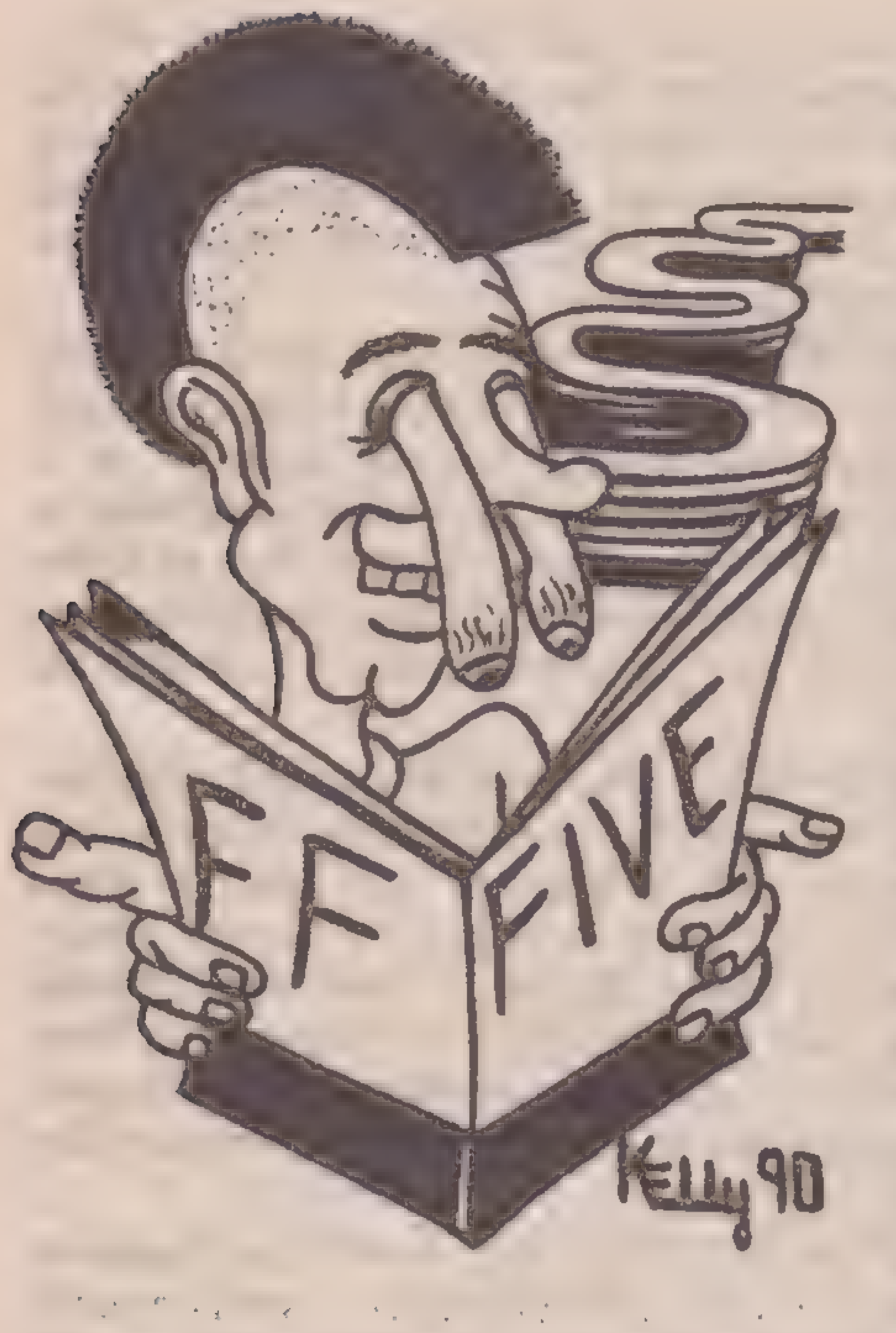


up well—I liked the fact that someone other than the hero saves the day. (D-22/CG)

**TETRAGRAMMATON FRAGMENTS! #119** ($1.75 from Steve Keeter, Eastbrook Dr. #300-F, Greenville, NC 27858): The zine of the United Fandom Organization, a group of small press comics publishers trying to help one another out. They comment on each other's books, present art tips, and sometimes horse around. More words than art here, but the focus is clearly on comics. Contact Steve for information on joining. (D-44r/MG)

**THRILL KILL BILL III** (50¢ from Nullification Presentations, 1998 Huntington, Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236-1918): Anyone who thinks comics are desensitizing, that readers won't abhor violence, hasn't seen this one yet. Bill is this guy who goes berserk, killing, gutting, and raping lots of other characters from the Sunday funnies. To see America's idols treated thusly is quite viscerally disturbing. (M-8/MG)

**TOASTER-MAN COMICS #6** (35¢ from Kurt Beaulieu, 4230 Pierre de Coubertin #9, Montreal, QC, H1V 1A4, CANADA): Relatively pointless minicomics featuring a superhero with a toaster for a body. This issue in particular seems like disjointed single panels rather than any sort of story. (M-8/MG)

**TODAY'S ANIMALS #6** ($2 from Tyrone McCloskey, PO Box 210107, San Francisco, CA 94121-0107): If anything, this one, featuring the ribald Ralston the Goose, is getting stranger. It starts out at a superheroes' bar, switches to a movie star from beyond the grave, and ends up with a middle-American God hectoring the reader. Bizarre. (S-24/MG)

**TOONS FROM HELL #2** ($1 from 5153 Saul St., Philadelphia, PA 19124-1919): Further adventures of Gloveman and Pinky, a pair of graphically primitive comics characters. They're on the track of Elvis Presley (alive?) here, although so far all they've managed to find is a batch of bad jokes. (D-13/MG)

□**TRUE GLITZ** ($2.50 & $1.25 p&h from Rip Off Press, PO Box 4686, Auburn, CA 95604; add sales tax in CA): Didi Glitz is some sort of epitome of tacky, a Lawn Guyland Jewish divorcee endlessly searching for true love amidst her bubble hairdo, tummy tucks, delivery boys and stretch pants. Everything from wild dreams to Rubberware parties to beauty salon gossip here, usually not *too* nasty, and the sort of thing that one feels a guilty conscience for laughing at—though of course that doesn't make it any less funny. (S-44/MG)

**ULTRA KLUTZ**, Book 2 of 3 ($2 from Onward Comics, POB 3684, Chico, CA 95927):Part of a very complex tale relating to survivors from an exploded planet, with superpowers, who become the alter-egos of some Japanese kids and fight monsters. Interesting as anti-heros—they're pretty clueless—it's nonetheless quite hard to get involved in without part one. (S-32/JR)

**UNDERGROUND SURREALIST #6** ($3 from M. Cusimano, PO Box 2565, Harvard Sq. Sta., Cambridge, MA 02238): Cartoons and poems taking a look at the world through bathtub-colored glasses. Though Cusimano is still the major artist here, increasingly the pages are opening up to other folks. Fine work from Fitz, Fucci and Jeff Murray appears in this issue, which looks at the pleasures and perils of travel. (S-28t/MG)

**UNSEEN COMIX #21** (2 25¢ stamps from Wall-ter, PO Box 501, Lebanon, KY 40033): Skateboarding seems to be the major topic in this issue (there's even a skate comic in French). But there are stranger things, like a sort of alien pornographic drawing, and a sex-soaked comic in which the food processor repairman comes to a rather bad end. Always deranged. (D-20/MG)

□**VITAMIN MASSACRE OF 100 MUTANTS #1** (50¢ cash or stamps from Deprogram, PO Box 4542, Seattle, WA 98104): Comics from the sorts who still get all giggly when they hear a four-letter word. Here we find "Captain Fuck" (who is so needed because everyone is always calling his name), a disjointed story about a man who thinks he's a doctor, and some wise-ass strips which really didn't strike me as funny—not even for wise-asses. Deprogram needs a little collaborative effort here. (S-10/CG)

**VIZ #41** (90p from PO Box 232, Melksham, Wilts, SN12 75B England): Real low-class humor of the kind that, I'm sorry to say, rather appeals to me. Characters include "the Fat Slags," (for you speakers of PC that means "gravitationally challenged women",) who try on bikinis in shops, a spoilt brat who jumps off roofs to make his ma feel guilty, and a kaleidescopic profusion of other surreal undesireables. Like a vulgar, funny Mad Magazine. (A4-48/JR)

**WILDSTAR** ($3? from EDC, Dept. FS5, Box 515942, Dallas 75251-5492.): Zine of serialized cartoon adventures very much in the Japanese style: big-eyed noseless little mannikins with cute hair and highly draped hod bods, big robot things, &c. Not very meaningful for folks who haven't been following the various SF soap-operas enclosed. (D-72/JR)

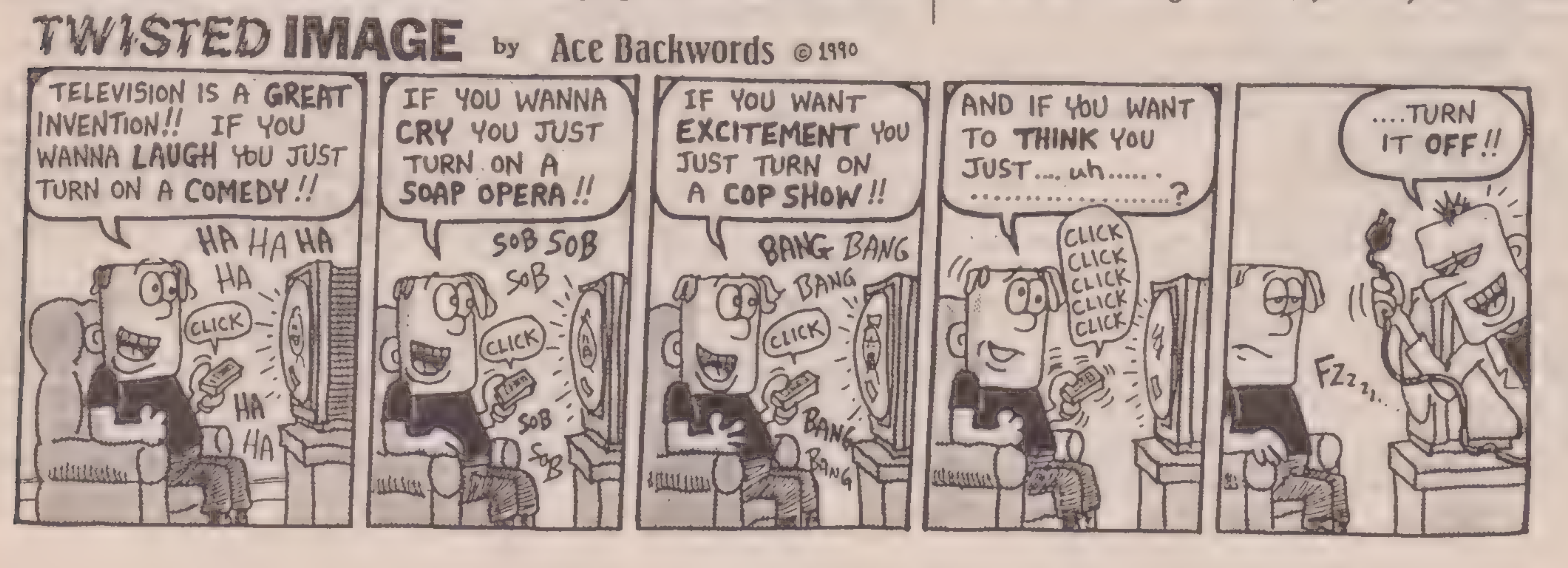
□**THE WORLD AS WILL AND IDEA** (60¢ & a stamp from Nullification Presentations, 1998 Huntington, Grosse Pte Woods, MI 48236-1918): This is billed as a "cartoon abstract of the Philosophy of Schopenhauer". I'm not qualified to judge the correctness, but they sure seem to have got his pessimism down well. An endless series of rapes, muggings, cancer, dead people, suicide attempts, and bad drugs, all rolled into one depressing minicomic. (M-24/MG)

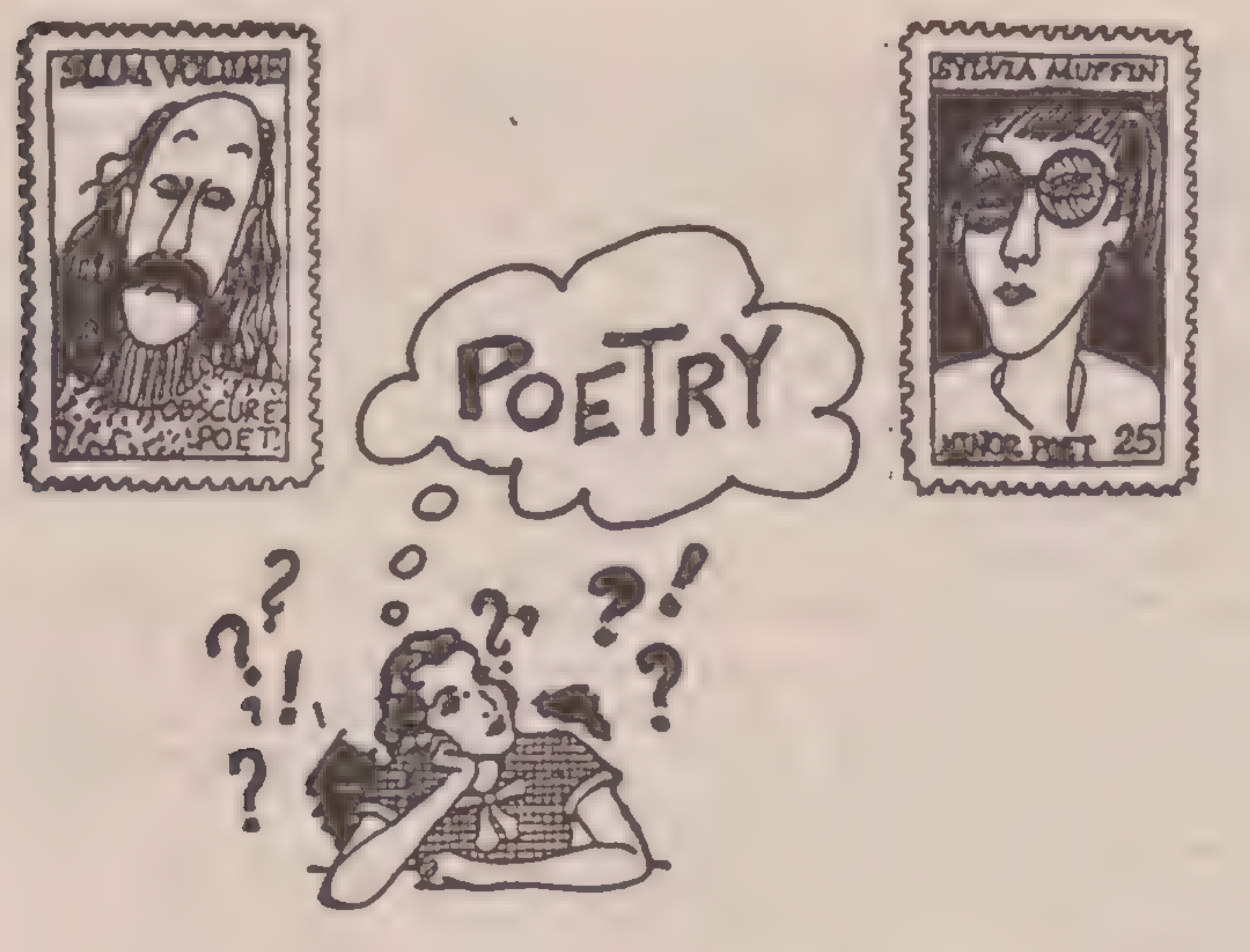
□**YOU'RE YOUNG, IT'S DARK AND YOUR BLADDER'S FULL** (40¢ from Colin Upton, 6424 Chester, Vancouver, BC., V5W 3C3, Canada): Short familiar story with an evil twist—it's happened to all of us, but I like the way Colin tells it. (M-8/CG)

**ZOOMCRANKS COMIX #6-8** ($1 from Mark Cunningham, 601 S. 6th Ave., St. Charles, IL 60174): What kind of person would print a cookie recipe involving live slugs? The kind that would publish this zine, of course. Mostly it's comics rather than recipes, with bizarre future revolutions, giant tapeworms, and urban folklore all battling it out together. Fun. (S-16/MG)

## COMICS NOTES

•**Mykel Board** (301 Hoyconfolt Sobudai, 3-4774-153 Sobudai, Zama-shi, Kanagawa 228, JAPAN) is still selling Japanese comics by mail. He can get you all sorts of bizarre graphics, from Japanimation to wild bizarre sex. Send 3 IRCs for pricelist and ordering information.


TWISTED IMAGE by Ace Backwords ©1990
TELEVISION IS A GREAT INVENTION!! IF YOU WANNA LAUGH YOU JUST TURN ON A COMEDY!!
HA HA HA HA
CLICK
HA HA
IF YOU WANNA CRY YOU JUST TURN ON A SOAP OPERA!!
SOB SOB SOB
CLICK
SOB SOB
IF YOU WANT EXCITEMENT YOU JUST TURN ON A COP SHOW!!
BANG BANG BANG
CLICK
BANG BANG
AND IF YOU WANT TO THINK YOU JUST.... uh...... .....................?
CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK CLICK
....TURN IT OFF!!
FZzz...



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**11x30** Vol. 3 #1 ($1 (?) from Toledo Poets Center, 32 Scott House, the University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390): A broadside of poetry, suitable for wall-hanging. This issue is filled with Etheridge Knight, currently doing a residency at Toledo. It features a fast introduction to his work, with published pieces, manuscripts in various stages of revision, and a bit of writing about poetry from his own pen. (O-1t/MG)

**ABRAXAS** #38/39 ($12/4 issues from Abraxas Press Inc., 2518 Gregory St., Madison, WI 53711): Academic poetry zine, featuring translations from Cesar Vallejo, a Peruvian surrealist from the 20's, as well as (mostly) translations of poetic material from around the world. Impeccably dull. (S-144t/JR)

**ALABAMA DOGSHOE MOUSTACHE** #8 ($1 & 2 stamps from Geof Huth, RD 5, Currybush Road, Schenectady, NY 12306): A complexly-folded poetry zine in which form comes ahead of meaning, both in the zine's construction and that of the poems themselves. alan davis-drake, for example, sprinkles thickets of typographic dingbats across his pages, yet the end result is unintegrated, chili peppers in vanilla frosting. Head-scratching time. (M-15t/MG)

**ALPHA BEAT SOUP** #7 ($3 from 68 Winter Ave., Scarborough, ONT, M1K 4M3, CANADA): A litmag (though mostly poetry, it has a few prose pieces) of "Beat and post-Beat" writing. Some of it seems painfully self-conscious, but there are plenty of jewels too. Bukowski is as crotchety as ever, and John Budan provides what may be the definitive piece of post-Kerouac work. Plenty to leaf through here. (HL-78/MG)

Umesh Amtey, **YOU'RE MEAT MAN** (stamps from 912 Layfair Place, Friendswood, TX 77546): This one took the McGonnagal award for scansion in pairs of rhyming verses. Love, rats and metaphysics are among the topics covered. (S-12/JR)

Ron Androla, **CUNT** ($1 from 3226 Raspberry Ave., Erie, PA 16508): Ron sometimes sees life through pot and alcohol hazes and his poems reflect much of that, even blurrily. Here he goes to friends' houses, gets high, shares his partner's bed, and gets high some more. (D-8/CG)

Ron Androla, **PERFECTLY SANE LIKE EXCESSIVE INEBRIATION** ($2 from Translucent Tendency Press, 3226 Raspberry Ave., Erie, PA 16508): Poems of seedy, needy sex and drugs. The images are vivid—of women's parts, of tongues and cats pulled apart by the legs. This may not be poetry to read aloud to your bedmate, that is if you want to get lucky. (D-12/CG)

Ron Androla, **SAME SWEET RESURRECTION** ($2 from 3226 Raspberry Ave., Erie, PA 16508): Why do poets torture themselves with poetry? Ron is less stoned here, but that seems to make him morose. He nonetheless writes of pot, and sanctifies its purpose. His life as a worker/poet/lover is held up mostly by his vices. When the poems are accessible, they ring truer. (D-8/CG)

**ANT FARM** ($3 from Kate Bremer, PO Box 15513, Santa Fe, NM 87506-5513): Mini of Haiku-like poems by as many hands as there were pages, and quite without focus beyond the blissful brevity. Sometimes faintly amusing and mostly senseless. (M-40t/JR)

**ASH** #5 ($1 from David R. Wyder, 121 Gregory Ave. #B-7, Passaic, NJ 07055): Poetry, artwork and the occasional bit of prose from David & friends. This time, Alan Catlin provides several arresting images, including a well-flowing poem of bartending and dead bodies. Dan Nielsen dips into the wide world of mind control in just a few short lines. (S-24/MG)

Jennifer Beetz, **LOVE POEMS** ($2 (?) from Tom Diventi, 2924 E. Coldspring Lane, Baltimore, MD 21214): Some pretty dismal and sometimes sexually explicit anecdote-poetry, usually ending on a note of self-awareness both plaintive and jarring. Poetic concision is not one of the author's virtues, so I can't fairly quote a line or three in isolation. In fact, it's rather prosey material. Poor Jennifer! may the Merciful and Compassionate send her better sex, and she us nicer writing. (D-16r/JR)

**BELLOWING ARK** VoL.6 #5 ($2 from PO Box 45367, Seattle, WA 98145): What one might, in these degenerate days, have to call a neoclassical litzine. Sensitive and coherent, the stories were structured and pointed. This issue focused on narrative poems, which I quite enjoyed. But, brand-names being changed, there was nothing in the zine that couldn't have been written by 1920. Everything here glowed with the cozy, intimate depth of sheltered middle-class sensibilities. Pleasant, to be sure, like a family album airbrushed by Renoir. (T-24t/JR)

**THE BELLINGHAM REVIEW** vol.13 #1 ($2 from The Signpost Press, 1007 Queen Street, Bellingham, WA 98226):A serious poetry review full of well-crafted banalities by the kind of person who teaches English or Creative Writing. (OK, I cheated & scanned the contributors' listing). But, you know, horses, seashores, breakfast conversations & the like, made mysterious by portentious language. Some of it was quite bad enough for the New Yorker. (D-55t/JR)

**BENT BUT NOT BROKEN, MIDLIFE CRISIS ON THE TRIBORO BRIDGE** ($3 (?) from The Plowman, PO Box 414, Whitby, ONT, L1N 5S4, CANADA): A joint poetry chapbook featuring works by William P. Haynes/Elliot and Ana Pine. Haynes weaves complexities, full of burning and loneliness and dreams. Pine provides shorter riffs, sex and bitchiness, rolled up into everyday sights. A good one-two punch. (D-28t/MG)

**BIG GIRL** (SASE from Paul N. Dion, 24 Main St., South Grafton, MA 01560-1133): Poetry—well, doggerel—about a woman who's so big...well, you'll have to read it to find out how big she is. The scansion is often off, and the images range from gross to silly. (D-12r/MG)

D.S. Black, **PLATE/TECTONIC\CITY** ($1.50 from Atlantis Express, 537 Jones St. Ste., 9156, San Francisco, CA 94102): A handful of poems, all elegant, none very intelligible. The superficial word-play shows Black to be very talented, but the poetry was just too abstract to convey much to me. (D-12t/JR)

Drew Blood, **FABULOUS RUIN** ($2 from DBPL 3410 1st St., Riverside, CA 92501): Gay poetry, not much as literature I'm afraid, but he covers the contemporary scene, from ACT-UP actions to unattainable guys. Bravely done, and had he a muse to match his matter this were strong stuff indeed. (D-20r/JR)

**BOGG** #63 ($4 from John Elsberg, 422 N. Cleveland St., Arlington, VA 22201): A journal of poetry that draws from both sides of the Atlantic, along with Down Under. Dan Lenihan's "Honky Tonkin'" is a great weird poem, UFOs and bikers all mixed up together. Todd Moore and Steven Doering skate around the edges of madness. And there's an interview with the mysterious Oberc which clears up a few things. (D-68t/MG)

**BOLD PRINT** ($2 (?) from Kyle Hogg, 2211 Stuart Ave., Richmond, VA 23220): A jampacked zine of poetry from the margins, with a great ending rant by Kyle and a few short text pieces too (including a rewrite of *Lost In Space* from Beth Fedorko that was funny as hell). Jake Berry has a weird pancreas poem, Don Webb chimes in, Terri Dolton tries to navigate between reality and TV. There must be fifty more poets here—a bursting bag of creativity. (S-40/MG)

**BOMBAY GIN** Summer 1990 ($6 from Dept. of Writing and Poetics, The Naropa Institute, 2130 Arapahoe, Boulder, CO 80302): A trade paperback of craftful work from the denizens of Naropa. This one has some smut from Bukowski, a fine hermetic poem "Hermes Swift As Death" by Janet Rodney, and more. There are novel excerpts and even a bit of a lecture on painting here too. Lyn

Lifshin contributes a couple of rants about the Mad Girl, who seems something of a feminine White Boy. (S-100t/MG)

**BONE AND FLESH ASIDE** #5 ($3 from Lester Hirsh. PO Box 349, Concord NH 03302-0349): This was really quite good: the poems were, often as not, interesting, quirky, pleasing, like this by Lisa Yount, "The Shaman's Journey": "I went there.// It was like being underwater./ Very far underwater,/ where the corpses of everything/ fell/ slowly/ in specks/ like snow or flakes of skin. Hunger swam by, no body,/ only a mouthful of teeth/ that glowed in the dark." Jack Veasey has a beautiful poem on angels on the back cover. Delightful, handsomely presented, well chosen and aptly illustrated. (D-32r/JR)

Booji Boy, **MY STRUGGLE** (donation from Ground Zero, PO Box 160, Newbury OH 44065): A very fat fine-print volume of utter nonsense, illustrated with wacky collages. Has a lot to do with sex, devolution, blacks, potatoes and catatonia. What little sense might have at one time animated this was beyond the reach of my instrumentation. (M-280r/JR)

**VENGEFUL GLEE** Eryc Bourland (25¢ from 63 Dixon Lane, Leeds, LS12 4RR, UK): Slender volume that makes no sense at all: "Tied to a bed with dumes of desire/ all about me like rotted pumpkins./ I make her less and less real.,/ until she beomes a distant weight..." I rest my case. (M-12/JR)

**A BUCKET OF NAILS** ($3 (?) from Elliot Richman, 159 Oak St., Plattsburgh, NY 12901): Truly unpleasant poetry on the second Indochina war: "The next day other Americans came and gave me bubble gum/ in colored wrappers with pictures of men with sticks and balls.// The gum was delicious and I ate it with muddy fingers/ from Mother and Father's graves." Even if this is by a veteran, which I doubt, it employs shoddy shock and vulgarly bludgeons with guilt, ignorant that suffering entails responsibility: pain as great as this has to be forgiven to be survived, and must be expressed with the greatest gentleness to be truly hear at all. (D-19t/JR)

Rafael Carvajal & David Belt **DOGS AND THE FLOWERS THEY PISS ON** ($2 from Drew Blood Press, Box 67, 1001 Page St., San Francisco, CA 94117): A booklet of prose poems. Belt, a construction worker, writes about shitting and puking. There's a nice description of an anorexic girl trying to "expound" a turd. Carvajal, an "unemployed homeless fuck," writes of how he hates everyone: the piece on art-school students is a masterpiece of scorn. As the authors' self-advertisement reads: "Neither of them are too pleasant to have around very often." (D-20t/JR)

**'CAT' & WHITE BOY UP A TREE** (Stamps from Paul Weinman, 79 Cottage Ave., Albany, NY 12203): A bagged set of collaborative works involving a pair of the underground's most prolific poets. Three booklets here in all: **WHITE BOY HAS SEX WITH "CAT", CAT LICKS WHITE BOY,** and **'CAT' & WHITE BOY GET THE LOW DOWN ON EACH OTHER.** I most enjoyed the first, where the pair write erotic poems to each other (only the Boy's idea of Erotica is about as deranged as his ideas about the rest of the world). (M-40/MG)

Alan Catlin, **BARKEEP** (50¢ (?) from Todd Moore, 900 West 9th St., Belvidere, IL 61008) Short shots of tough-talk, mean men and wild women seen in saloons—but without enough feel of the real to trap the attention. (D-3/JR)

**CAUTION!** Vol. 1 #3 ($2.95 from Tim Meinbresse, PO Box 4694, Richmond, VA 23220): A "Magazine of Collective Confoundedness" which seems to be staking out an urban poetry arena for itself. There are a batch of subway poems and loser poems here, along with relationships up in smoke. Ed Emmer drops in with some of his outrageous "Meat Poetry", while Tim's own "Justice For An Animal Lover" has a good rap behind it and a fine rhythm throughout. (S-48t/MG)

**CEHSOIKOE** #11 ($1 from Grinding Wheels Enterprises, 1954 Brookside Lane, Hoffman Estates, ILL 60194): The best features of this zine were the wild expressionist front and back covers of distressed looking persons. Inside it was Weinman, Levant, Weiss, and others less well known but no more exciting. Directionless collection of unfocused poetizing—except for Weinman, whose writing is clear but neither beautiful nor amusing. (D-22r/JR)

**CER*BER*US** #1 ($4 from JVC Books, 700A S. Brevard Ave., Arcadia, FL 33821): A collection of poetry looking to break some bounds, but although it's less stuffy than some litmags it's far from the frontier. There is some excellent work here, though: Joyce Carbone writing of an alienated young lady, or Kim Laico's mythological musings, for example. (D-56/MG)

**CHAOIN** Max Lee Hoffman ($2 from D.B.P.L., 3410 First Street, Riverside, CA 92501) The work of a very ambitious poet, it has material on deserts, rockshows, streetdrama and cyberpunk, to name a few essays. "the vertical rain/ this is the deal going down/ i deteriorate/ on the sofa watching the window." Not that bad. (D-15r/JR)

**CIRCUMCISE THE CIA** ($2 from Drew Blood Press Ltd., 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): Very angry political poetry by various hands. "AmeriKKKa" is excoriated in poems more impassioned than polished, sharing a distressing confidence that hatred is an adequate response. (D-20r/JR)

Jo Cohen, **RACHEL'S WORLD** (50¢ from ether telegrams, 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36867): Sad poetry about a young girl who loses her father to physical death and mother to grief and the ensuing feelings. Not thread upon the same story needle, but full of gloom and wonder at the misfortune of life. (M-7r/CG)

**COKEFISH** Vol. 1 #9 ($2.50 from Ana Pine, PO Box 683, Long Valley, NJ 07853): A fat journal of poetry which covers a lot of bases, without any particular focus beyond that imparted by random chance. In this issue, some nasty poems leapt out—one smearing feminists, one about suicide—but there's lots more, most of it much nicer. A browse through the modern small press poets. (S-44/MG)

Laura Conway, **THE CITIES OF MADAME CURIE** ($4.95 from Zeitgeist Press, 1 Kaiser Plaza, Suite 2220, Oakland, CA 94612): A series of rambling American scenes and reminiscences held together by periodic mentions of Curie, who's cast as the modern goddess of Radiation, heatlessly glowing and dead as the moon—an eerie female symbol of Death and Technothreat. It's an effective conceit, & if all the Curie material in this book were soldered into a poem it would be a fine one. But as it is the material seems an intrusion, as though it had been simply stitched across a pile of poems to make them seem connected and fey. (PB-70/JR)

**GREGORY CORSO'S WRITINGS FROM UNMUZZZLED OX MAGAZINE** ($4 (?) from 105 Hudson St., New York, NY 10013): Mainly a reprint of OX 5/6 1973 which featured some Corso material since published, in superior versions, in his own book **Herald of the Autochtonous Spirit,** this was also fleshed out with Gregoriana from other issues. A Corso issue is a splendid idea, but they should have hounded him for new material, not patched together a "collector's item" out of reprints. Also, the thing was so wretchedly perfect-bound as to self-destruct on reading. (158pp. tpb/JR)

**THE COVENTRY READER** Vol. III #3 ($5/4 issues from PO Box 18418, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118): A tabloid of poetry from across the country (though there does seem to be some Midamerican emphasis. Joel Lipman's "Censorship" reads a bit like a toned-down Jello Biafra, but gets its message across; Robert head gives us a simplistic but nonetheless effective anti-war poem. (T-24t/MG)

**CREEPING MALAISE** various poets ($2 from DBPL, 3410 1st St., Riverside, CA 92501): Poems by various hands, vaguely conceived, indistinctly worded. If the authors are as young as they sound they should stick with it. (D-24r/JR)

Judson Crews, **SYMBIOSIS** ($3? from Oyster Publications, c/o Lainie, 723 N. Highland Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60004): Nonsense made marginally interesting only by its references to the sex lives of Big Poets: but who is Joanne Kyger? Why would Gary Snyder be famous for fucking her? (D-20t/JR)

**THE DAYS OF THE EASTER BUNNY** ($2 (?) from CRS Outloudbooks, POB 86, Claryville, NY 12725): A one-gimmick book. The Easter liturgy and various Biblical snippets provide a structure which is crammed with humorously inappropriate material: "go tell it on the mountain, tell it in the restrooms tell it/ in the funeral homes/and speak of it as thou walkest over the outstretched legs of the dying/ that the king of darkness is arisen..." Fluff, but can I blame the Bunny for that? Well done. (D-8t/JR)

Larry O. Dean, **EYES, EARS, NOSE & THROAT** ($3 from Zenith Beast, PO Box 191761, San Francisco, CA 94119-1671): Ruminations on love and life, from a poet who likes to look beneath the surface of things. Though many of the poems here deal with standard relationships, the two I liked most were a bit outside that. "Faith, Period" manages to go through family and friends and life and death and society, all in one poem set in a laundromat; while "To

My Dog, With a Broken Leg" is actually not near as schmaltzy as the title might make you fear. (D-40/MG)

L.B. Delphino, **THE SPARROW AND THE COCK**(contribution from Ground Zero Press PO Box 160, Newbury OH 44065): A Bukowski-style narrative poem about a supply officer stationed in France who gets a blowjob from a married officemate. Cute little sex anecdote, rather short on lyricism. (D-10r/JR)

William Dockery, **CURRENT WORKER** (50¢ (?) from ether telegrams, 2108 15th ave, phenix city AL 36867): More murky thinking from the Dock. Mostly a poem addressed to Laura M. who I hope was less perplexed than I (M-8r/JR)

**DOGFISH HEAD #3** ($1 from Jesse Kimball, PO Box 1075, Hampshire College, Amherst MA 01002): An undistinguished poetry zine, all rudeness and strange syntax. The point of interest is the interview with Paul "Whiteboy" Weinman, guilty of saturation-bombing the milieu with his minis. He's born again and a baseball fan—which somehow doesn't surprise me. (D-16/JR)

James S. Dorr, **TOWERS OF DARKNES** ($3.50 from Ree Young, Nocturnal Publications, Rt.2 Box 357, Troy NC 27371): Elegantly illustrated with dark forms—bones, bats, eyeballs &c.,—the poems are of a piece. Horrid bits of grisly ingenuity. Not very inspired but very determined to scare, so much so as to seem a bit strained. (D-20/JR)

**DUSTY DOG** Vol. 1 #2 ($4 from John Pierce, PO Box 1103, Zuni, NM 87327): A classy small press poetry zine which is picking up more poets near and far. They spotlight a couple in each issue—here, Brian Walker and Sue Saniel Elkind—and fill in with plenty of others. They do a few poetry reviews as well. Janet McCann's "Random Design", beginning "Tea with the clever nihilist..." was quite captivating. (HL-20t/MG)

**"EXCUSE ME...COULD I HAVE MY SOUL BACK?** ($2 from ATH Press, 6637 Franklin Ave., #10, Hollywood, CA 90028): Teen-angst, framed in tobacco smoke and jittery with too much coffee—to which the book's best lines are consecrate. Several poems on cigarettes (never a good idea) and "leaving her." (D-20r/JR)

**□EYSU #1** ($5 from Alexander Lawrence, PO Box 1988, San Francisco, CA 94101): Mostly a collection of poems from 2 or 3 people with no particular theme in mind, so the mind wanders. Last entry is a short dream-like vignette by Donald Grose which contains some of the most relaxingly sexual content I've read. (S-18/CG)

**FINE MADNESS** Fall/Winter 90-91 ($5 from PO Box 15176, Seattle, WA 98115-0176): An academic poetry zine, this issue features work by Tony Esalen who is (what else?) an academic poet. His material is a mix of rennaissance diction and contemporary references, sometimes amusing but never rivetting. No risks taken here by writers or publisher. (D-80t/JR)

**THE FIRST LAST RAG** (50¢ from Boar Hog Press, 2136 19th, Boulder, CO 80302): A mini of poetry from a dozen pens, mostly writing about being in the underclass. There's a neat free speech poem from Steve Roth, and a rather nasty look at fear by Richard Loranger. Uneven but interesting. (M-36t/MG)

**FREE LUNCH #5** ($1 (?) from PO Box 7647, Laguna Niguel, CA 92607-7647): Collection of competent, nondescript poetry by various hands on disparate themes. The kind of dullness you'd rexpect from Antaeus or the Beloit. (D-32t/JR)

Peter Ganick, **sudden as pulse...** ($2 (?) from SCORE, 491 Mandana Blvd. #3, Oakland, CA 94610): Poetic newspeak (that impression caused mostly by an affected-seeming series of abbreviations including "th" and "cd") in short couplets. Little blurts of imagery, feeling, with "glyphs by DiMichele". Pretty opaque, and destined to remain so since nothing seems to invite the reader in. (D-20/MG)

Martha Gatewood, **PIZZA VISION** ($2 from Shattered Wig, 523 E. 38th St., Baltimore, MD 21218): Martha seems to be fascinated with certain recurring images; socks and vomiting appear more than once in these poems of urban life. Mostly they recount life's daily frustrations, seldom rising far above the ordinary. I was however quite taken with "The Bank", a tale of winning against the bureaucratic mindset by application of a superior force. (D-32t/MG)

Jon Forrest Glade, **PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE JUNGLE** ($6 from Chiron Review Press, Rt. 2 Box 111, St. John, KS 67576): As the introduction notes, Viet Nam reminiscences are a growing part of the writing industry. Glade, however, does an exceptionally good job, bringing in the drugs and the shit and the losers as well as the fear and post-traumatic stress. Short blunt reminders of a time in history most Americans would much rather forget. (D-48t/MG)

Jim Gove, **NOT THE BUDDHA** ($3 from The Norton Coker Press, PO Box 640543, San Francisco, CA 94164-0543): Elegant, professional haiku-like poems by a long-time small-presser. Limited by the limits of the genre, i.e., rather prosaic subject matter and a fascination with the minds most banal workings. It is, however, done with wit and style, and will please even the discriminating among those who enjoy this style. (D-28r/JR)

P.A. Griffin, **TANTALUS** (contribution from Ground Zero, PO Box 160, Newbury, Oh 44065): Slender vol of arts-press poetry, neither very clear nor about much of anything. ()-10r/JR)

**THE GROOVY PIE #15** (Trade Only from Third Eye Publications, 1703 Princeton Ave., Lakewood, NJ 08701): Short poems and one story fragment interspersed with freeform art make up this zine. The poems seem attempts to capture single emotional moments, but are at best skeletal memories. (D-12/MG)

**GYPSY #15** ($5 from Vergin Press, 10708 Gay Brewer Drive, El Paso, TX 79935): Another poetry zine with more writers than pages and no focus, theme or style. "I heard the pure/beam of your wave/ vibrate like a vowel" is typical. (S-72t/JR)

Rita Hatch, **WADING THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHS** ($5 from Nidor Press, 330 19th St., #45, Oakland CA 94612): Pleasant enough little booklet of personal poetry, on themes such as Mother, 4th of July parties, & men. Hatch seems a rather engaging person, but the writing lacks that intensity and concentration needful to really be Poetry. (D-11/JR)

William P. Haynes, **VULTURES RHYME & TRANSITORY VERSE VOLUME 19** and **THE JUXTAPOSITION OF KINETIC LAW** ($3 (?) each from The Plowman Printing House, Box 414, Whitby Ontario Canada, L1N 5S4): **Vultures** was formal and agonised poetry of unemployment, coal dust, casketed father, and vampirism—to name a few of the topics. Judging by my own want of response to these wel-written but non-vibrant lines, I'd judge these to be the work of an educated and exacting craftsman who set out to create something hard-edged and shocking. But the effect was chilly and stiff. **Juxtaposition** was the same author and, though here humor was an object, the result was likewise labored. The only relief was the more conversational poetry about various suicides he's known. (both D-28t/JR)

Robert Head, **THE EDUCATION OF AN AMERICAN** (Contribution from Ground Zero, PO Box 160, Newbury, OH 44065): Facsimiles of letters sent to R.H. in response to his own by Congressmen. Relating to issues of the day (early 70's.) Pointless. (HL-24)

Robert Head, **HERE & NOW, I & THOU, AM & ART**(contribution from Ground Zero, Box 160, Newbury, OH 44065): More pleasant and pointless prattle from R. Head. Word origins, tidbits from philosophy, and various peripheral girls—hard to tell why he's spilling these unconnected beans. (D-20r/JR)

Robert Head, **IS THIS THE GREAT WORLD I HAVE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT** (contribution from Ground Zero Press, Box 160, Newbury OH 44065): Rambling, self-indulgent rumination, touching on etymology, Heidigger, pussy, & the soul. Not uninteresting. An undirected dialogue by an enducated person who likes to play handball with info. (D-26r/JR)

Paul Holman, **EXERCISES & FRAGMENTS, THESE CURIOUS ONES, THE FABULIST, & SCRATCHWOOD** ($1 each but $2 for Scratchwood from PO Box 664, London E5 OJW UK): **EXERCISES & FRAGMENTS**, the first of these minis, contains 10 brief evocations, images of myth landscape, "some green island/ where the centaur lies dreaming," or "a city of colourless stone." In THE

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**FABULIST** the poet speaks to us "through a beard of weeds" tells us more of his cities, and we note, with a little thrill of recognition that "green island/where the centaur lies dreaming." But what does he dream of? One hesitates to enquire too closely for "a sluiced torso/ bobs on spumy water." Eager to keep *our* torso unsluiced, we hurry to the next volume,**THESE CURIOUS ONES**, where we are brought up with a start by the pronouncement "nothing is as it should be." I should say not! at least not in this mythical gloom and silence unhappily relieved by the snore of a centaur or the bob of a sluiced torso! "a stony head// as if clouds might fall" teases the author, taking a superior view of our discomfiture. We beg, we wheedle, we flip the mini's pages in a frenzy of yearning. Will no distincter message emerge from the "beard of weeds"? "Language/ the only tribute/ to whatever power might hold these reservoirs,/ these marshes." concedes the poet. Don't do me any favors! But still, one mini remains, **SCRATCHWOOD.** Here the mythscape stretches further. I scurry through it, "toes tearing at the earth." But in the antepenultimate poem "the ponds overflow" You know what that leads to. Can I help but see myself in the here reiterated image—you guessed it— I bob on the spumy water. Sluiced to hell and back, me & my torso have done. (M-10/JR)

**HOME PLANET NEWS** no. 29 ($2 from POB 415, Stuyvesant Sta., NY NY 10009): Basically a poetry zine: enough effusions by different hands, and book reviews, to satisfy the most abandoned versefiend. High points here were the Tuli Kupferberg cartoon and Brett Rutherford's elegy on Barbara Holland, the great lady of the NYC open reading scene: "The words remain. The poems are children/ locked in a Gorgon glance in their perfect moment./ Life ends. It is such a brittle thing,/ brain walking on vein and synapse,/ tightroped over nothingness. Yet mind and hand/ conspire against mortality..." (Holland's collected poems are reviewed in this issue.) (T-23r/JR)

Gene Hosey, **HEMMING IN THE HEMISPHERES**($3 from Gene Hosey, 318 Rosemont Ave., New Cumberland, PA 17070): This book is printed all on one side of a huge sheet & folded to digest size, so it must be unfolded, map-style, to be read. Illustrated with some crude drawings, it's mostly a not very clear play about a boy in a forest with a machete. Puzzling. (O/JR)

**IMPETUS** #2 ($3 from Cheryl Townsend, 4975 Commanche Trail, Stow, OH 44224): A thick sheaf of poems by men about the male experience, which is mostly women: waitresses seen and admired, having the hots for the girl next door, angry girlfriends who publish your secrets—maybe they should have had women write the male issue, at least then there might have been some gay material in it. As it is there's a number of poems of self-congratulation at not being queer. This uptightness is indicative of the self-limiting that kept the selections from ever being dangerous enough to truly interest. (HL-68r/JR)

Ioanna-Veronika, **REMEMBERING MR S.**($6 from Atlantis Express, 537 Jones St., Ste. 9156, San Francisco, CA 94102) Splendid, rich and rare. These are largely reminiscences of a childhood in Poland, where the author was born and lived until the age of 17—currently she's in an MFA program in California. Hers is the world of a child in a Soviet-bloc country, whose repression bred such personal rebellion as a little girl and poet could muster, often related with passion, sometimes with humor as in this poem about a schoolfriend: "intersections we ran through,/ corners where we stopped to say/ goodbye and talked forever,/ schoolbags propped against a ledge./ She pretended forbidden knowlege:/ it was she who said, in the seventh grade,/ "I know a word that would corrupt you/ instantly." "What's that?" I pleaded./ She pronounced it slowly: "Contraceptive." " Ioanna shows us the countryside, its skies, its grainfields, sometimes heavy with memories and rusting remnants of the last world war: landscapes often done with great vividness: "Childhood Eden:/ the backyard/ with a view of the factory—/ three poplars braiding roots,/ a few dusty lilacs./ After school I like/ to stand between the poplars/ as in a great branched basket." A review of these dimensions can give but a poor impression of the sweetness and force with which Ioanna acquaints us with her relatives, wondrous with their scientific knowlege and with their folk-beliefs, and above all her own sensuous nostalgia. Young, passionate, a poet & in exile, she wins an almost holy poignance in her poem "my last christmas eve in warsaw", ending: "I never saw such/ tenderness—/ snowflakes like moths of light/ falling across the haze of streetlights,/ settling on the bare trees,/ on the benches and the railings,/ on the square roofs of kiosks,/ on the calm,/ suddenly forgiven city." (HL-60t/JR)

Murray Jackson, **SCENES FROM CHILDHOOD**($2.50 from X-Press Productions, 2932 Roundtree, Ypsilanti, MI 48197): Nostalgic handfulls of details of rent-parties, pushcarts, pimps and skillets, whose meaning, beyond the fact they at one time came within eyeshot of the author, remains mysterious. (D-16t/JR)

J.C., **AN IDEA CAME TO ME AND SPLINTERED**($2.50 in US 25¢ stamps from PO Box 2595, New York, NY 10009): The title gives some notion of the contents. Vague verse about whether beans are relevant and how grownups are "older colder children." Not terrible but far from good. (A4-20/JR)

**THE JAMES WHITE REVIEW** vol.8 #1 ($3 from PO Box 3356, Traffic Station, Minneapolis, MN 55403): Prissy Gay litmag with stories and poems on those sensitive topics of feelings, relationships, and commitment which are generally better left to Lesbians. Needless to say the shadow of AIDS (in an understated and politically responsible way) falls across every page. In all, this supremely tasteful journal harbors nothing so offensive to queers—I mean ears—polite as smut or yuks. I.E., a Gay zine that *doesn't suck.* Puh-leez! (T-16t/JR)

**JVC POETRY NEWSLETTER** Vol. 2 #4 ($1.50 from JVC Books, 700A S. Brevard Ave., Arcadia, FL 33821): Extremely spare presentation of as many poets as the page will hold, each with their one poem. A lot of these people struck me as well-meaning, but without spark; maybe encouraging them is good, but the results are pretty rough. A few, like Sigmund Weiss and Ana Pine, shine by comparison. (HL-12r/MG)

**KALI KISSES** ("Free" from #1B-1065 Harwood St., Vancouver, BC V6E 1R5, CANADA): A small zine of mainly night-time and downbeat poetry. I get depressed reading through this stuff, even though I suspect that their intent is to be more primal than rotten. Hard to tell, though. (D-8r/MG)

Wayne Keon, **SWEETGRASS II** ($11.95 from The Mercury Press, Box 446, Strattford, Ontario CA N5A 6T3(519)): Disembodied rambling by an Ojibway poet. "take her down/ where the/ silver// bells are ringing/ big blue nd/ all the// flowing nites/ in shining/ steel/ peel off 50's like..." (103pp. tpb/JR)

Arthur Winfield Knight, **OUTLAW**(50¢? from Todd Moore, 900 West 9th St., Belvidere, IL 61008): This is a couple of poems about the James boys: whiskey, dicks and pistols imagined in the frontier past, only not nearly as exciting as that makes it sound. These are just puffs of atmosphere, they don't really do a Cavafy-style vivid glimpse into the dark backward and abyss of time. Not reason enough to trouble Jesse's slumber. (D-2/JR)

Michael Kriesel, **THE HINDENBURG'S GHOST** ($2 from 1559 Tagholm Rd., Poulsbo, WA 98370.): Poems made from Supermarket Tabloid headlines, like "Boy eats angel food cake & flies!" or "Fat mom squashes kids to get sympathy." A brilliant if twisted idea, but the poems read like synopses of the articles, without additional poetic description or depth. (D-21/JR)

**LET'S GIBBER** #2 (2 stamps from Ziggurat, Box 25193,Rochester, NY 14625): Ziggurat's (Thom "Big Gurl" Metzger's) house organ jives the choir with supersoul honking bluesnotes to Lovecraft's Dagon-mania:"Bulging eyes, webbed feet, shockingly wide and flabby lips, obscene and unhallowed manipulations. God! that hand. Your dizzy little digit is twitching up a storm, but playing pocket pool in the Temple of Cool is sure as Sheol not the answer.// You got a crazy little finger, you got a crazy little thumb/ you got a crazy little organ, I think I'm gonna get me some." Other inestimable features include the Pope and Vuvu squaring off for a popularity contest and a ravishing Shroud-of-Urine poem. As ever, Ziggurrat is more fun than waving a dog's head on a stick at your mother. (S-2/JR)

Jonathan Levant, **INGROWN AND INGATHERED** ($2 (?) from Neatness Press, 24 Gunckel Ave., Dayton, OH 45410): Very elegant wordplay. But the author is so drunk with the sheer fun of making words leap backwards through hoops that more often than not the poems mean nothing at all. More clarity, as in his best images, "in spring the icicles fell like little lightnings," or "the crab's awkward lumber is lifted/ by a wave into helpless grace" would produce a really first-rate book. The ability he has—all that lacks is the discipline of communication. (D-40r/JR)

**LILLIPUT REVIEW** #16-17 ($1 from D. Wentworth, 207 S. Millvale Ave. #3, Pittsburgh, PA 15224): A stocking-stuffer, illustrated, mini of toylike poems, cute wordplay and nonsense. Lightweight. #16 though had a nice pointed little poem on windows by John Grey. (M-10r/JR) **LINCOLN BULLETIN** #67 & 76 (Stamps from Three People Walking, PO Box 94629, Lincoln, NE 68509): Poetry and poetry crit in a series of broadsides. #67 skirts around the boundaries of obscenity as it reprints a batch of library graffiti, which actually make decent poetry. #76 is a critique of a work about the MOVE bombing. (S-2/MG)

Gerard Locklin, **LOST AND FOUND**, together with "Be Honest Like a Knife" by Mark Weber ($3 (?) from 2681 Euclid Heights Boulevard #3, Cleveland Heights, OH 44106): I've read these mugs' other work and I can't say familiarity is breeding love. Both have a certain bitter, beery humopr, but I don't think that's enough to make it poetry. It's the sort of anecdotalism that would do well enough to set your buddies roaring in a bar, but it just isn't rich and vivid enough for verse. Maybe seeing women as more than "she-poets" and "dumb cunts" would be a step towards adding that extra dimension. (D-40r/JR)

Gerald Locklin, **THE TREASURE OF THE SIERRA FAULKNER** and Mark Weber's**HIGHWAY OSTINATO** ($3? from Zerx Press, 318 4th Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah 84103): Raconteur-poetry: little ironic jokey anecdotes, on the topics of drinking, literature, drinking, what's wrong with women, &c. Often the humor depends on reference to book or movie titles. Pretty thin beer. The flipside, Ostinato, subtitled "the narrow road to the deep north," was more ragged right margin ironic short takes on touring the country with a girlfriend Janet & experiencing the rudeness of people who didn't realise he looked frumpy and talked weird because he was an artist. (D-40r/JR)

Sharon Lonergan, **COUNTING INFRACTIONS** ($3.95 from Literati Publications, PO Box 15245, East Providence, RI 02915): Cerebral and insightful, these poems describe a barren world, the internal machinations and fear of poets. A line that stands out that all poets should read: "the poets of Other Countries/start revolutions./the poets of america revolve/in their heads."(D-33/CG)

Brian Lovely, **SECRET HISTORY** ($6 from 112 E. 9th Ave., Apt. B, Columbus, OH 43201): An alchemical treatise: brief poems with full facing page illustrations, from "mercurial Fountain" to "Rebirth". Unintelligible to me (as one uninitiate except in the most general sense), yet handsomely done and quite entrancing. This would surely be a delight for the esotericist and for any friend a rare gift. As always with Lovely's work, the paper, format, &c. are elegant. (D-28t/JR)

**LYNX** Autumn 90 ($4 from PO Box 169, Toutle, WA 98649): Quartlerly journal of Renga, which is sorta like haikus sausage-linked together. Highly participatory, with readers making "exquisite corpses." Fascinating and intelligent for this genre. (Personally I've never seen what haiku in English has over 19th century naturalistic novels for close-observed detailed description.) (T-31t/JR)

Peter Mantis, **APOGEE AND PERIGEE** (50¢ (?) from Peter Mantis, 123 Stonewall #1, Memphis, TN 38104-2455): A collection of short poems and bits of random text, both Peter's and other people's. There's a sort of "on the road" feeling here, with a poem about mucking about in his MG and another about a trip to a concert. Mostly pretty private stuff that it's hard to breathe public life into. (D-12r/MG)

Wendy-O Matik, **SO MUCH FOR PASSION** ($2 & 2 stamps from Manic D. Press, PO Box 410804, San Francisco, CA 94141): Hard-edged street poetry from someone who sounds like she's been through a hell of a lot. There's street people and death and madness and whoring here—but there are also moments of quiet hope and some unexpected humor. "A Real Woman" made me laugh out loud *and* think, not an easy combination. (D-20t/MG)

Ann Menebroker, **ROUTINES THAT WILL KILL YOU** (45¢ from Bogg Publications, 422 N. Cleveland St., Arlington, VA 22201): Ann writes with a firmness and purposeful pen. These aren't tricky, pretentious half-sentences, but words you can remember and remember how they feel. Mostly autobiographical it would seem: love, life, aging and an occasional tryst. (D-18t/CG)

Maureen McNally, **SATELLITE**($2 from DBPL 3410 1st St., Riverside, CA 92501): Wet behind the ears sensitive poetry. "Shards of loneliness/ are the/ cobwebs on her walls." Nuff said. (D-24/JR)

Todd Moore, **FIRST SWITCHBLADE** ($1 from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): Moore's style is instantly recognizable, full of abbreviated words and titles that flow right into their poems, lending a sense of urgency. He writes of bars and guns and switchblade knives and the people who use them, painting a continuing neon-lit picture of the underbelly of society. (D-22r/MG)

Todd Moore, **MORE MOORE** ($1.75 from Vergin Press, POB 370322, El Paso, TX 79937): Hemingwayesque tough-talk anecdote poems on corpses, whores & bars, with rather an authentic first-hand sound to them, but without any interpretation of the grim info retailed. Why does Moore tell us these things? It's not bad, just uncentered. Like atmosphere in search of a planet. (D-8/JR)

Donna Marie Munro, **ANIMAL DREAMS** ($3 from 662 Lovett SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506): Donna presents carefully crafted poems which, as the title suggests, are in touch with living as an animal, being aware of one's own body and feelings, despite the modern world. In some cases she seems to be consciously seeking an antidote to alienation, some spark of individuality which, even if it hurts, can help to oppose the blandness of the world. Sad in the end, but a path worth walking. (M-32t/MG)

Robert Nagler, **SERMONS IN LEATHER** (stamps from Death Metal Press, 421 Park Street, Oxford, PA 19363): A few poems uglier in topic than in execution, on stillbirth, catacombs, donkey heads, &c. Prosey. (S-2t/JR)

**VIDEO TAPE FROM THE REVOLUTION** Robert Nagler (stamps from Death Metal Press, 421 Park Street, Oxford PA 19363): More prosey nastiness. Fingers cut off, corpses in the snow, &c. Kind of revolting. (S-2/JR)

R.J. Neubauer, **AUTUMN IN THE FINGER LAKES** ($2.00 *Cash, Stamps or Poetry Trade* from 3963 North Creek Rd., Palmyra, NY 14522): Neubauer's poetry always makes me feel like those Grapenuts commercials were supposed to: country life, picking grapes, crunching leaves—it's all here—you can even smell the cold. (D-8/CG)

R.J. Neubauer, **UNBUTTONING THE SCREW** ($2.00 *Cash, Stamps or Poetry Trade* from 3963 North Creek Rd., Palmyra, NY 14522): The appropriate word for this one is probably "bittersweet". These are poems from the poet to a lost (or abandoned) love, someone who he's grown apart from. He feels close to the past, alienated in the presence, and is slowly working out a way to cope. On-paper therapy. (D-16/MG)

**NEXT EXIT** #17 ($3 from 92 Helen St., Kingston, Ont. Canada K7L 4P3): This issue was all elegies for a poet, teacher, & general mentor Bronwen Wallace. I fear it was generally more decorous than poetic, but there were lines that touched: "Now your voice/ warming the ordinary/ into magic is/ mute." (D-24r/JR)

Kurt Nimmo, **CONFESSIONS OF A SMALL PRESS HEDONIST**($3 from Zerx Press, 318 4th ave., Salt Lake City, Utah 84103): The unsuccessful search for a pair of available tits, getting shitfaced drunk, and the want of due recognition supply this book's three dimensions. It is a paen to "...the self destructive lifestyle... not compatible with whole-anti-nukers and curd bean flake adherents..." Like all the Zerx press stuff it's homophobic, sexist bargain basement Bukowski. (D-40r/JR)

**NOISE IN THE VOID** #1 (SASE & 25¢ from Anton Mechanism, 7420B Maine Ct. #10229, Clovis, NM 88101): A solo poetry outing, all in handwriting, most bearing no sign of revisions. Anton goes in for short crisp forms like haiku, with a few shots at topicality as well. Mostly this seems like cryptic poetic diary notes, meaningful mostly to the poet. (S-4/MG)

**OLD MARTINS NEW STRINGS** The Mason-Dixon Trio ($6 (?) from The Soupbean Press, Box 198, Morgantown, WV 26505): Three Northern West Virginia poets whose works are presented together unsigned to produce a unified trio effect. The work is united by themes, as, love/ family/ region. Little to commend beyond the local color. (D-48t/JR)

**OMEP** #1-2 (50¢ from Omepress, 4801 Cypress Creek #104, Tuscaloosa, AL 35405): A single poem on a piece of paper—practically a poetic bookmark. It's presented in snappy desktop fashion, but somehow seems altogether too minor a work. (D-1t/MG)

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**ON THE DRAGON'S SIDE** ($1? from POB 65331 Stn. F, Vancouver, BC, Canada V5N 5P3): A slender and elegantly produced volume of poetry by many hands on as many themes. Dreams, clouds, Life and Exile are among the topics. All pretty innofensive, and one wonders why they're all together here. (M-12t/JR)

**OPEN SOUND** Vol.1 #1-Vol.2 #2 ($1 from Red Sky Poetry Theatre, PO Box 2473, Seattle, WA 98111): "Open Sound extends the Open Mic principle into print," trumpet the editorial notes, and the zines live down to this ill-fated motto. Vol.1 #2 had a few suprises, a couple of thoughtful pieces, one on gender and one on condoms, but thereafter it subsides into the kind of random nonsense these poetic democracies tend to generate. (S-20/JR)

**PAINTED DROPS AND TALES #3** (SASE from Mark Marinoff, 2 Miller Rd., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603): Though given a name and number, this is really just looseleaf sheets of Mark's poems straight off his computer printer. He writes complex dreamy things, with some interesting imagery and no clear resolution. (S-2/MG)

**PAPER BAG** (contrib? from PO Box 268805, Chicago IL 60626-8805): This was a handfull of poetry broadsides, the ususal stuff, but I was amused by B.Z. Niditch's "Journey to Home," a mini memoir of the sixties with ecstatic name-dropping, which I think qualifies as quite passable light verse. (S-10/JR)

Barry Edward Pilcher, **MOUNTAIN JUGGLING**($2 from 63 Dixon Lane, LS12 4RR, UK): Halfway between a poem and a comic book: haiku-style observations, pleasantly calligraphed and illustrated with drawings and collages. A wonderful presentation, but the poetry suffers somewhat from Zen ordinariness. (D-22/JR)

**PLAYING SONGS** David Zack (contribution from Ground Zero, PO Box 160, Newbury, OH 44065): A pamphlet of mimeo'd free-association from 1968, and still relentlessly available. Meaningless. (O-14r/JR)

☐**POETRY #6** ($6 from Lionel Goldbart, POB 19-0454, Miami Beach, FL 33139): Mr. Goldbart is very taken with a certain sort of wordplay in this 1-man zine. e.g., "Arafat, Arafat,/ Fey phantom of the Fatimate..." (S-11/JR)

**THE POETRY PROJECT #138** ($20/yr. from St. Mark's Church, 2nd Ave. & 10th St., NY NY 10003): Essays on poetry and poems by the St. Mark's set. Meticulous evaluations of "word texture" and other such frog perspectives. I grew up with these people. They live and breathe Poetry and man are they dull. (S-21/JR)

WOW ooo
BRENNER

**PUFF THE M.D.** (SASE from Warren F. Smith, PO Box 562, Lakehurst, NJ 08733-0562): A rabble-rousing poem from the Director of NOCIRC of New Jersey, an anti-circumcision group. Set to the scansion of the original, this one suggests that some day the dragon of circumcision will slink back into the woods. (S-1/MG)

**RADDLE MOON #9** ($6 from 9060 Ardmore Drive, Sidney, BC, Canada V8L 3S1): A perfect-bound elegantly printed magazine of poems and essays that I find unintelligible and which are, in terms of English, beyond interpretation. Pretentious foolery.(PB-122t/JR)

**RALE #5** (on request from Kevin Lintner, 827 N. Queen St., Lancaster, PA 17603):A special poetry issue, being a folder with 1-side broadsheets of which the best were the Paul Weinman White Boy numbers which, in large format, seem even more like comic strips. Undistinguished. (S-20/JR)

A. Razor, **EVERYTHING IS SHINY GREY**($2 from DBPL, 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): Fairly undistinguished poetry, too generally unintelligible for me to speak of themes. E.g. "she injects love/ like a window shutter." Your move. (D-24t/JR)

A. Razor, **EVIL, AND OTHER SAFE LUBRICANTS** ($2 from Drew Blood Press Ltd., 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): Gritty punk cynical worldview poems from a passing razor. There's a deeply affecting piece in here tying together love, communication, and blood, as well as several others that tend to show emotions as things that run one down. Cutting work. (D-24t/MG)

**RED DANCEFLOOR #1** ($5.50 from PO Box 3051, Canoga Park, CA 91306): A perfect-bound collection of works from Los Angeles-area poets. Much of the work here is quite playful, not at all what you'd expect to come out of smog city. Take John Young's "Paranoia", for example, which depicts a world where even the gophers are malevolent. Others present freeways and love and cats and subcultures, providing a wide range of work. (D-84t/MG)

**RED LADY** D.A. Levy (contribution from Ground Zero, PO Box 165, Newbury, OH 44065): A long prose-poem from 1969, tentative descriptions of sex, with euphemisms like "her soft parts." Sixties artifact, mimeo'd, circa 1969. (D-10/JR)

**REPROBATE** (50¢ from Why Be Normal (?), 535 Garfield Ave., Aurora, IL 60506): A few short handwritten poems, dealing with the world, why it is so bad on the surface, and how God is fixing it. Explicitly Christian in orientation, this will likely appeal only to fellow believers. (MM-16/MG)

**RIDING AROUND TRYING TO BE SCARFACE** ($1 from Charles Krich, 183 Prospect Street, Willimantic, CT 06226):Originally read at punk shows at Willimantic's infamous Populous Pudding, these are almost all in the standup-comic style, which is rather a pity as Krich is better than that. Even so the poems crackle with witty flashes and inventions, perhaps the finest piece being "Main St. and Hell" which begins: "Work has become a blur at the/ End of the memory,/ What the telescope of my/ Mind sees as a faint, dull blip/ In some middle class constellation./ Later this week I will put in a/ Guest appearance." If Krich ever gets it together to write a longer book, I'll sure be eager to read it. (D-24r/JR)

Sal Salasin, **CASA DE CACA**($3 (?) from Tom Diventi, 2924 E. Coldspring Lane, Baltimore, MD 21214): Aptly titled. "George Phillip Teleman/ Must be a Jamaican./ "Tella mon to see me now."" Take a guess. (D-47t/JR)

☐**SCARLET #1** ($2 from Alice Notley, 101 St. Mark's Place #12A, NYC NY 10009): Another whirl of words from the St.Marks/Naropa crowd. They're all unduly skillful writers, but exclusively so that they have nothing much to say. They detail the trivia of their day-to-day with inappropriate intensity. Eileen Myles has a short poem about shivering, there's an ultra lucid story about almost having to do jury duty. Anne Waldman has a rather charming piece about turning into a boy—her language really is a bit spellbinding here. I have to confess that as literary zines go this is very impressive, these are the pros. (S-24t/JR)

Libby Scheier, **SKY** ($8.95 from The Mercury Press, PO Box 446, Stratford, ONT, N5A 6T3, CANADA): A complex longpoem based on the four elements, in which sky and earth seem to be tearing the poet in opposite directions. The one promises freedom and hope, the other returns to dark memories of child-rape in a deserted basement. Water promises renewal, while fire lends outrage and hope of catharsis. Scheier does good things with this framework, moving from voice to vice to make the four pieces distinctly different, yet sticking to a single overall metaphor to unify the work. Careful and passionate writing. (64 pp tpb/MG)

Leonard Schwartz, **EXILES:ENDS** ($3 from Red Dust, PO Box 630, NY NY 10028): The author, who teaches philosophy at Parsons, presents us with elegant and suggestive balderdash which the back cover puff triumphantly declares "abstractions achieved." Well, I don't give any points for coming to the tantalising brink of actually saying something: unless you leap you aren't a poet or even a suicide. (D-14/JR)

Red Shuttleworth, **WESTERN MOVIE** Red Shuttleworth ($3 from The Signpost Press Inc., 1007 Queen St., Bellingham, WA 98226): Well, this stands out. First example of Cowboy surrealism I've ever seen: "The sky is scythe-sharp over Missouri/ as money landslides out of the bank's vault,/ maybe like corncobs because it's bundled./ The bandits watch this. They're real busy/ eating roast beef sandwiches asnd celery." (D-23t/JR) Steven Smith, **TRANSIENT LIGHT**($11.95 from The Mercury Press, Box 446, Stratford, Ontario, CA N5A 6T3): Drifts in and out of making any sense, but when it does it doesn't add up to much: "another music clarifies/ through branches/ descends a cathedral." (TPB-123/JR)

Winthrop Smith, **GHETTO: FROM THE FIRST FIVE** ($8. from RFD Press, PO Box 68, Liberty, TN 37095): This is the inaugural volume off the RFD press—another lurch forward in their long and ill-considered march towards respectability, illustrated with pointedly inoffensive drawings of nude men, and composed of pointedly inoffensive poetry. The idea here seems to make the reader forgive Gay men for having sex by showing it isn't really any fun. With droning verbal repretitions the author concentrates on the hungered monotony and repetitive necessity of the cruising patterns. Joyless and never hot, the author concludes this exceedingly cold buffet with his address and phone number—need I mention it isn't a 900? O RFD, RFD, that printest these poets! How I'd like to bring a slovenly unhandsome fucktext between the wind and your newfound respectability! (TPB-90/JR)

**THE (SOMETHING)** Vol.VI #4 ($1 from 1520 Bryn Mawr Ave., Racine, WI 53403): A rather aptly named poetry zine: it's got a lot of short poems and collages by various hands, but the whole is without direction or focus. Nothing leapt out as especially good or even especially bad. (S-16r/JR)

**THE SOW'S EAR** Vol. 2 #3 ($10 yr. from 245 McDowell St., Bristol TN 37620): A finely produced zine of readable, well-chosen poetry. Trouble is, among these effusions on windows, dawns, birthdays, gardens, &c., there's nothing very vital being said. Just individual sensibilities giving subtle expression to aspects of ordinary existence. (S-32t/JR)

**STAR LINE** ($2? from Chuck & Susan Noe Rothman, 2012 Pyle Road, Schenectady, NY 12303): SF poetry zine, featuring an academic essay on Brian Aldiss' poetry, marketing advice & much indifferent verse. "Metal scrapes against rock, and there is a smell/ of overheated diskdrives, oil silicon." My diagnosis is they've read too much SF and not enough good verse. (S-17t/JR)

Julia Steineke, **THE TREEPLANTERS** ($2 (?) from Flying Camel Press, 678 Euclid Ave., Toronto, M6G 2T7, Canada): Prose poems told in the first person about Steineke's stint as cook for a crew of treeplanters in northern Ontario. The ground is hard, the air is dusty—but these workers sweat it out for "seven cents a tree" and get their job done. As cook, Steineke can look into their world, ponder their situation. Thoughtful, perceptive and telling—these are words that can be read over and over again. (D-28t/CG)

**STUDENTS IN LOVE AT A SCHOOL FOR THE HANDICAPPED** Jan. '90 ($2 (?) from PO Box 8093, Montgomery, Alabama 36110): Depressing and unimpressive poems by small presser pests: one begins "As you suffocated your baby..." the next starts "Like arthritis..." Put out by the "WAITING FOR THE WORLD TO END PUBLISHING COMPANY." Puh-leez! Lighten up you guys! Who the fuck are you, Ming the Merciless? (S-32t/JR)

Suzanne, **BOLINAS**($1 from Dancing Fish Press, 2-381 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto Ontario Canada M6R 2M8): Elliptical gibberings about realtionships, attraction and frustration. Too sparse to convey much more than a sense of gloom and failed eroticism. (D-16t/JR)

Barry Taylor, **S.P.Q.R. METALLUM DAMNATORUM**(£5.95 from Maypole Editions, 3 Maypole Cottages, Paganhill, Stroud 043 759744 Gloucestershire, GL5 4AS): Historical poems on Saxons, Jutes, Helvetii & Romanii, playfully presented as a translation from 3rd century AD Latin, then some modern poems tackling topics such as Eastern Europe 1975 and Rembrandt, and a thin section of Juvenilia. If this book fails it is not through want of ambition. But what is one to say of "ATHENA, willed along the sable skies/ To calm the scene, as PHANTOM SISTER flies/ Impressed the form of IPTHEMA THE FAIR/ and here she quite distinctly swished her hair." Let us draw the curtain of charity over these effusions.(TPB-154r/JR)

**TEMM** Oct. 1990 (50¢ from Ken Wagner, PO Box 587, Olean, NY 14760): This is the last issue of **TEMM**; it's being combined with **HEATHENZINE** to make the new **BLUE RYDER**. In presentation, it's strictly minimal, single poems from a batch of writers presented without frills. Liked the Albert Huffstickler contribution here. (S-8r/MG)

**THIRTEEN POETRY MAGAZINE** vol.9 #1 ($2.50 from Box 392, Portlandville, NY 13834-0392): Unreadable amounts of poetry—nearly 50 writers in this issue, crammed onto the double-column pages. There's no thematic coherence to draw the reader through the daunting mass, nor did any of the poems leap out at me. Too many voices too close together make a din. (S-39r/JR)

**TIGHT** Aug.-Oct. 1990 ($2.50 from Ann Erickson, PO Box 1591, Guerneville, CA 95445): A poetry zine with a scattershot approach to modern poetry, some traditional themes, some experimental pieces, all presented without any frills. Like Edward Mycue's "Electrical Lady" in October; others here include Matt Jasper, Julia Vinograd, Kirby Wright, and Mark Neville. (D-56/MG)

**TOAD COMES TO CLEVELAND**(3$? from Zerx Press, 2681 Euclid Heights Blvd. #3, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106): A whole bunch of poetry and rambling texts by the poets who read at "Mack's Backs," a local bookstore in Cleveland, two of whom, Locklin and Weber, have material reviewed in this section. Mostly rabbiting on about drinking and wandering in poetic aimlessness. Undistinguished. (D-40r/JR)

**UNMUZZLED OX #23 THE CANTOS (121-150) EZRA POUND** ($2 from 105 Hudson St, New York, NY 10013):"Great literature, it hardly needs to be remarked, tries to be great," editorialises the Ox's most grandiose issue to date. But, I cannot resist pointing out, great literature doesn't have to try, to strain puff and sweat to be so. Greatness is a state, not a product. Insofar as magazines, like sausages, may merit praise by the quality of their farcing and the strenuousness of its insertion, so may this issue of the Oxfeaturing extensions of Pound's Cantos by eminent hands—Creely, John Cage, Corso, & al. There's also an impressiive collection of free-ranging composition and photos by a truly stellar cast...Paul Bowles, Burroughs, Ginsberg, Patti Smith. If I only list names w/o describing content, it's done with full precision of purpose: this is a heavy-duty blast of merely OK writing from the old guard of serious American avante-garde literatit. If you think the Beats are the last generation who'll write good books, this one will wow you. Holy awe aside,, the fact must be faced: this is link sausage from the fattest and most venerable hogs at the trough of literature. (T-78/JR)

Roberto Valenza, **INDUSTRIAL AREA**($1? from Primal Marrow Pub., 925 14th Ave. #2 Seattle, WA 98122): A Whitmanesque effusion on the pleasures of strolling around in an industrial park: "The railroad ties are falling apart today/ i acrobat on the rail that stretches into infinitum/ i laugh and skip stones across the ground/ and count the skipping across this planet's face,/ silence is broken by the wind over my hair,/ my black boots touching step by step the man-made stuff/ that lays resting on this mysterious living object.// i love it i say, it was hard to say it once,/ and now that there is no reason to say it/ i can say it clean and clear/ and reflect/ like a bright mirror..." It's hard to give even in a long quote the charm and exuberant lyricism of this mural-like style of writing. The voice is cheerful, fresh and good, and I hope to see more from Mr. Valenza. (D-3r/JR)

Roberto Valenza & Steven J. Bernstein, **POWERFUL UNDERTAKERS** (contribution from Primal Marrow Publ., 925 14th Ave. #2, Seattle, WA 98122): Two tales of necrophilia. The zombie-like Reagan gets buttfucked by his entire staff; Nixon's corpse takes a reaming after which Pat and the narrator make his dead trunk pillow to their lust. Favorite line: "Long live the president! a great man if ever I fucked one." Sophomoric but Burroughsian enough to carry it off.

I laughed out loud—but then I have a somewhat medieval sense of humor. (S-6/JR)

**WAKING UP IN BETWEEN** Vol. 2 ($2.50 from Heather Maring, 7375 Delmar #3, St. Louis, MO 63130): A bi-annual poetry anthology. Maring's own work is among the best here, managing to bring in surreal imagery without slipping into all-too-common silliness. A. Razor and Paul Weinman also contribute notable pieces, the latter taking a sly dig at his own White Boy. (S-28t/MG)

Mark Weber, **THE NEW IMPROVED ODES OF BIG WEB**($3 from Zerx Press, 2681 Euclid Heights Blvd., #3, Cleveland Heights, OH 44106): Poetry about sitting on the toilet & listening to Beethoven—actually that's a bit unfair. Tho' Beethoven's the second most frequent topic, shitting far outdistances it. Weber ponders the bum of Rodin's thinker, why cats like to shove their butts in your face, assholes who honk their horns too freely—there's even a little variation on "here I sit, brokenhearted." He should have had the book printed on toilet paper. But like many sufferers from coprogelasia (shitgiggles) he can be sorta cute and often is, as in the lament for his barbered bangs: "o my hair, what sewer are you in?/ you were a freedom —/ you freedom'd in everyone's face.// I'll now wear a cap with a pinwheel on it..." (D-40r/JR)

Paul Weinman, **BESTIARY ABOUT ME** ($2? from M.A.F. Press, Box 392, Portlandville, NY 13834): More from the all-prolific pen of P.W., this had an excellent descriptive elegy for an oil-slicked duck & in "Parents at Last," a Leda & Swan maternity fantasy that had fine moments. The rest of the book didn't seem fully realised, the poems lacked clarity and force. (D-24r/JR)

Paul Weinman, **THE CENTRAL AMERICAN POEMS**($1 from Paul Weinman, 79 Cottage Ave., Albany, NY 12203): Rather effective little vignettes of Americans being faced with guerilla-theatre evidence or direct questions about the South American fracas and coming up with replies that reveal shameful rationalising or humiliating cluelessness. Not particularly poetic, but an effective pamphlet for the cause of political awareness. (M-10r/JR)

Paul Weinman **HARDBALL AIN'T ALL BUCOLIC** ($5? from Samisdat, Box 129, Richford, Vermont 05476): More Weinmania, this time on Baseball, of which he speaks with authority. The writing's terse, alliterative, heroic-toned: "So Big Mike laid one on leather so thick/ that the man in stained blue strolled out/ and said no way Weinman - "No Wetballs."/ Watch, I said, and threw that smootch-orb/ like it was bout to stick the moon." Great atmosphere, eh? But that's as far as it goes: images & atmosphere. It's more like sports-painting than sports poetry: the unadorned actions are supposed to say it all. And as such it's done awfully well. (D-15/JR)

THE SAMPSON'S FED THEIR TUMOR (IT'S ALMOST A YEAR OLD) EVERY DAY...
AW! AIN'T IT CUTE?
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Paul Weinman, **SUCK MY COCK, WHITE BOY!** ($2.00 *Cash* from Drew Blood Press Ltd., 3410 First St., Riverside, CA 92501): A collection of Weinman's poetry—White Boy and otherwise—all of which takes a dark glance at the current social situations. Weinman is obviously very concerned with issues like racism and the First Amendment, and even includes a copy of the newspaper blurb on his Flag burning stint in Albany a couple of years ago, with an explanation as to why he recieved 28 phone calls threatening to burn his "Kike's" house down as a result of his actions. Eye-opening. Even two years later. As a bonus, it's funded by the NEA. (D-20r/CG)

Paul Weinman, **THREE FINGERS**($3? from MAF Press, Box 392 Portlandville, NY 13834):Slender vol of rather opaque verse by the most prolific pen of PW. Mostly nature scenes, but shifting out of English syntax so frequently I couldn't make much of them. (D-32/JR)

**THE WESTVIEW REVIEW** Fall '90 ($3? from 50 South Willard St., Burlington, VT 05401): Done by the inmates of a mental hospital, this was pretty banal stuff, often in rhyme. Topics included affection for father, cats w/o tails, & the like. Probably good therapy. It's worth noting that nothing here was unintelligible or unclear, in sharp contrast to most of the unconfined poets who are out polluting the intellectual atmosphere. (HL-41/JR)

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT** #9 ($2? FROM Blaustein, 89 E. 3rd St., #5C NYC NY 10003): Done as an anti-censorship statement, this was calculatedly naughty. The high point of this prose & poetry lowness was Lorraine Schein's SF & Metaphysical variation on "the steam-powered fucking machine", and Sparrow's effusion: "Rising out of Brooklyn/ the Statue of Liberty/ (raising her hand)/ like she has the right answer." (S-20/JR)

John Wright, **OCHT NDANTA** (stamp? from Boar Hog Press, 2136 19th St., Boulder, CO 80302): Eight translations from 6th-19th century Gaelic poetry. Not bad, but not great either:"my treetop oratory/ better than great hall's room/ with the stars in pure array/ with the sun and the full moon." Pretty thin beer. (M-12r/JR)

**A WYMBS BROADSIDE** #2 (50¢ (?) from 1839 W. Touhy, Chicago, IL 60626):A heavy-stock selection of poetry (and occasional prose) that seems to be associated with the folks who do **THE PAPER BAG**. #2 includes Michael Brownstein and three western haiku things from Sean Thomas Dougherty. (S-2/MG)

Mr X, **CIRCUS OF INSANITY, DECADENCE, & ONE IN A MILLION** ($1 ea. from 42 Somerset, Montgomery, IL 60538): **CIRCUS** was often effectively illustrated poetry on the fairly narrow range of Christian themes: Sin, Wealth & the Apocalypse all come up for consideration in a more or less undignified way. Laudable for its energy and focus, but wanting in literary savvy. (D-18) **DECADENCE** homed in on X's favorite subjects: Hell and the Crucifixion. Lots of pics of John Paul here: Is X considering restoring relations with Rome? In all a mildly interesting glimpse into pop Christianity.(D-14) **ONE IN A MILLION** was concerned with androids, nuclear weapons, and judgement after death. The high point was a reprint of the 1,913 letter transcription of trytophan synthenane. (M-14/JR)

Jeff Zenick **POEMS OF AN UNKNOWN BAKER** (Stamps? from 403 E. Call St., Apt. #2, Tallahassee, FL 32301): Prosey little reflections on the bummer of being a baker and dealing with the public. Unfortunately Zenick sees so little poetry in what he does ("I don't even notice the smell of the bread when it comes out of the oven") that the effect is kind of unpoetic. It is however familiar-feeling stuff to anyone who's had a dead-end job. Pleasingly illustrated with line-drawings of the shop. (M-8/JR)

## POETRY NOTES

•In the future, we do not intend to review unpublished manuscripts. If you can't be bothered to put them up as a pamphlet, preferably proofread, then we can't be bothered to review them.

•**10th MUSE** (Andrew Jordan, 33 Hartington Road, Newtown, Southampton, S)2 0EW, UK) would like to swap with any US poetry mag—or anything else from the contemporary US scene, to better get in touch with what's going on over here.

•Mixed Media Publising is starting a new, eclectic poetry 'zine. Please send non-returnable submissions or a SASE for more information to: POETRY, Box 973, Brookline, MA 02146.

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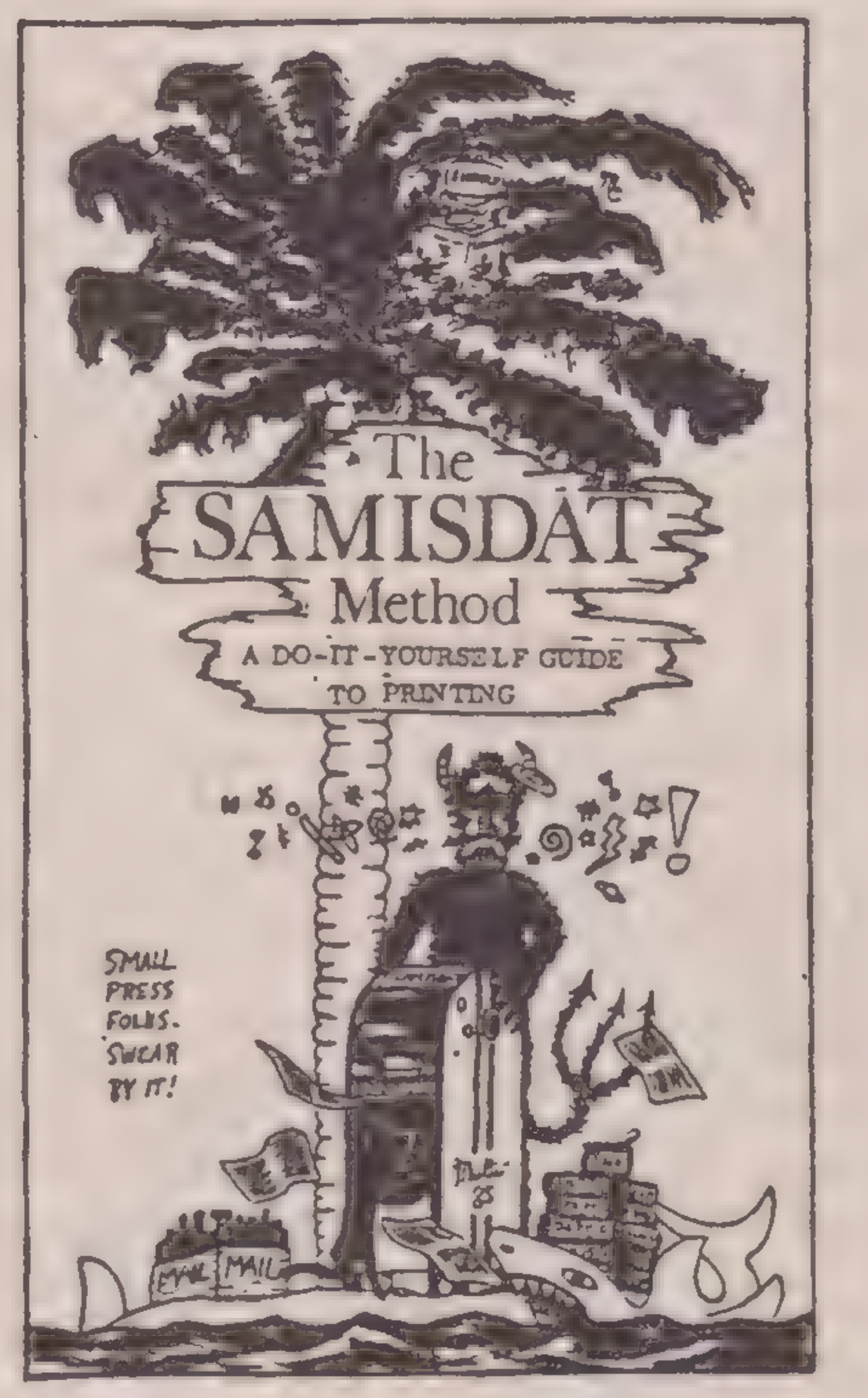
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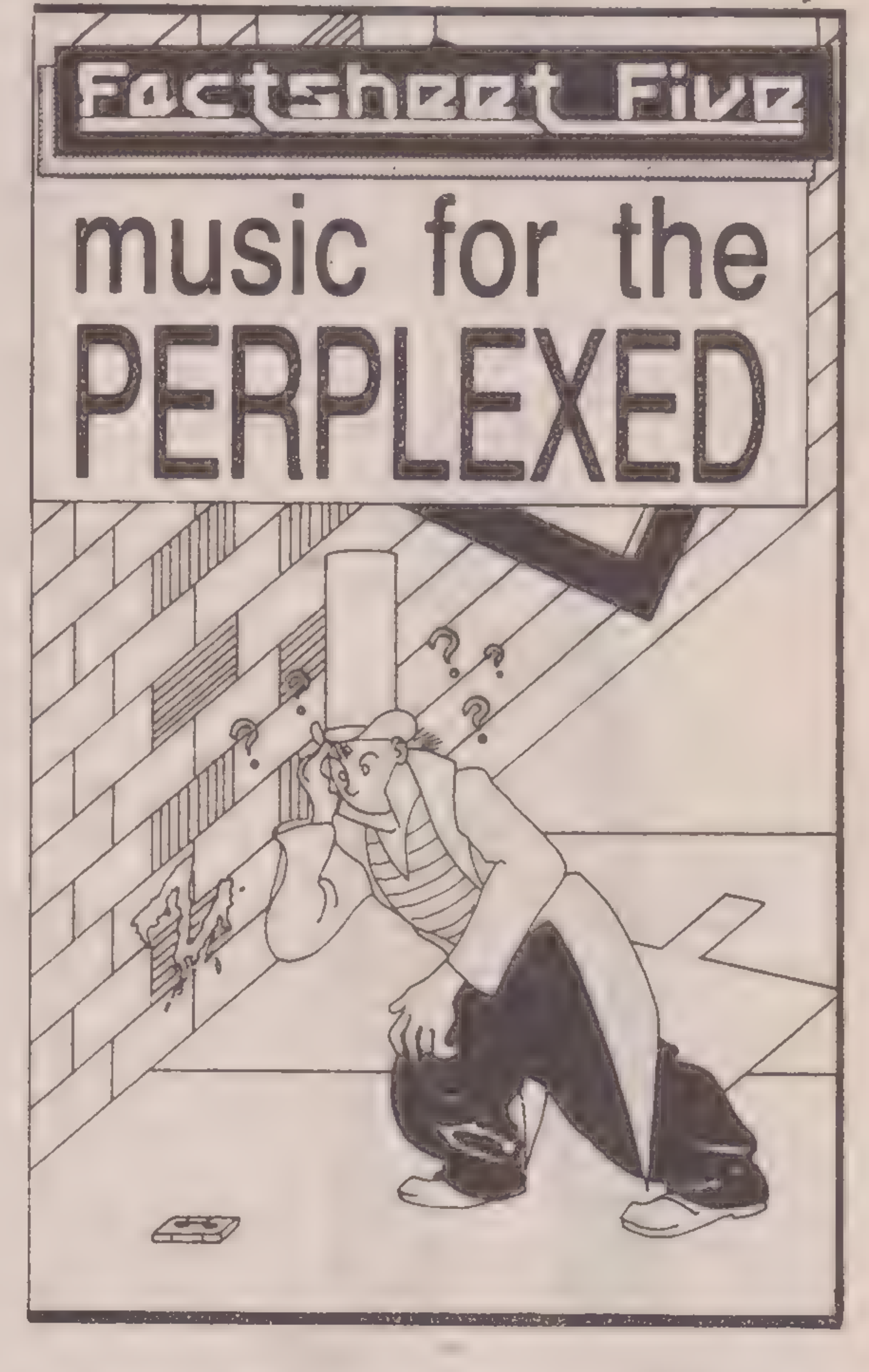

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Al Ackerman, **SEAT, PETE, WHEAT, JEET, & BEETS** (On Request from the Ackerman Clinic and Clarke A. Sany, 208 Routt St., San Antonio, TX 78209): These are five separate pamphlets, each with its own story. The stories are a bit smudgey, but with some of the choicest writing I've seen. **SEAT** is the narrative of the apprentice of a loma yoma who practices his breathing, watches brassiere salesmen, and eats fried chicken. **WHEAT** was the first one I tackled and seems so far to be converging wheat obsession and free form slop jar fusion (admittedly, this one still baffles me). **PETE** is by far the most accessible—the narrator being a man of doubtable sanity but extraordinary sagacity. His bartender Pete is his target, as well as various and sundry allusions to his brown bathrobe. (D-4/CG) **JEET** is a brief send-up of the Castenada series, a little below the Ack. standard, but providing a hearty coupla yucks all the same. Warped logic and low humor, like a Three Stooges episode written by Lewis Carroll. **BEETS** was an uproarious and picaresque account of the Sunday adventures of an old lonely out-to-lunch retiree. One of Ack's best; this work is sustained and focussed in its drollery from sentence one to the apposite closing illustration. Nothing can be the same after ingesting these brain-sick bon-bons. Dazzling. (JR)

Benjamin Allen, **PHOTOBOOTH PORTRAITS** (£2 from 1 Carnhill Avenue, Carnmoney, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim, N. IRELAND): Think of this as fractured photography. Allen and a host of contributors from the mailart network composed these portraits out of hundreds of photos taken by those automatic booths, sliced and diced and recombined. The result is a sort of warped Identikit of the underground, a mad melange of faces (and occasional other bodily parts). Well printed on slick paper. (A4-32/MG)

7Richard Behrens & R. Podolefsky, **BROTHER & SISTER** (70¢ from Liz Camps, Freelance Press, PO Box 8551, FDR Sta., New York, NY 10022): Subtitled "(a binary myth), this one ranges freely from the moment of creation up to the here & now. Somehow along the way the magic of the myth mutates, from grand, larger-than-life figures to quiet secrets among children—but perhaps that is the lifecycle of myths. An innocent sexuality prevails. [Note: if you buy both **CHAKRA** zine and the **WHEN WISE MEN CRAWL** book, you'll get a free copy of this pamphlet](D-40t/MG)

Matt Bergstrom and Nathan Tolzmann, **SPOONFULS OF WISDOM** (99¢ plus 35¢ postage from Wurlington Bros., PO Box 1163, GAC, St. Peter, MN 56082): "The eternal words of Happy Chef." For those of you familiar with the interstate stops featuring the fiberglass figure of Happy Chef, you will enjoy this fictional biography and recognize the wisdom he spouts when you push his button. For those of you unschooled in this particular travel treat, this tribute to the great philosopher/chef will lure you out to the great midwest to see for yourself true enlightenment at its most potent. Photos of the sage are featured throughout. (D-19t/CG)

**THE BEST OF CROSS CURRENTS** (50¢ from David Cushman, 42 Stoughton Rd., East Windsor, CT 06088): A look back at David's stint as editor of the Small Press League newsletter, a sort of hangout for weird underground comics types. In addition to comics critiques and letters, he chooses an outrageous essay by Andrew Roller and a couple of Dockery short stories as worth of remembering. (D-12t/MG)

Bob Black, **JOHN HAGEN-BRENNER IS THE SUBGENIUS WHO MAILED A BOMB TO BOB BLACK** ($3 from Bob Black, Slobboviated Press, PO Box 2159, Albany, NY 12220): A collection of court documents and photocopies of applicable statutes, dressed up with reprints of the same anti-SubG propaganda he's been sending around for a while now. To be precise, Hagen-Brenner pled guilty to sending "an improvised explosive device consisting of an audio cassette holder wired with four cadmium-type batteries, four flashbulbs, and five firecrackers". Nowhere is Hagen-Brenner's actual sentence mentioned. (S-19/MG)

**BOG** ($1(?) from Dancing Fish Press, 2-381 Roncesvalles Ave., Toronto, Ontario, M6R 2M8, Canada): A micro-mini pamphlet of one sentence pages which read like a constrained "relationship" conversation. The photos don't blend well with the prose, but you get the feeling that whosever speaking the words doesn't blend well with the listener. (MM-12/CG)

William Boyer, **DEER CROSSING** ($5 from Falsified Records, PO Box 2010, Birmingham, MI 48012): We don't get a lot of plays around the **FF** offices, but I'm glad this one wandered in. Written by one of the members of Detroit band The Blanks, this is a sort of tragic comedy featuring a man driving down a desolate highway and remembering how he got there. Ecotage and saving the earth are the main thrusts, with Justin (the protagonist) remembering bits and pieces of life leading up to his friend Turney's incarceration. Looks like this would be fun despite the downbeat ending. (S-41/MG)

**CABERET 1980-88** ($4.00 from A Distribution, 339 Lafayette St. #202, New York, NY 10012): A collection of reports of political hijinks from Britain. There are stores being hit with epidemics of shoppers thinking things were free, altered billboards, invasions of the six o'clock news, and guerilla bike-lanes all appear. Though the printing is sort of shabby, this is a good source of ideas for activists and troublemakers, as well as funny reading. (D-52/MG)

**CHRONICLES OF AN URBAN WILDMAN** ($1? from Joseph Kerrick, POB 17231, Phila. PA 19105): Kerrick, the author of the remarkable Book of Yod, here indulges in what seems a sort of autobiography,—it's about efforts to find or found a society free of the mental bridles civilisation imposes. Steeped in his own unque metaphysics, the hero evaluates his way through communal ventures and neopagan gatherings, surprised and surprising, as he pursues his vsion of existence. Vivid and interesting. (S-6r/JR)

**CRANIAL INTRUSION** ($1.50 from Constantine Markopoulos, 87 Van Schoick Ave., Albany, NY 12209): A coloring book for people who are living well beyond the edge. Each page has some sort of distorted image, often based on the human body, with instructions to use a solid color couched in dangerously paranoid language. Not the thing for impressionable children. (D-16/MG)

Professor Zoltan Crunlop, **CROP CIRCLES: THE MYSTERY SOLVED** (£1.50 from P. Byrne, Malice Aforethought Press, 328 Brettenham Rd., London E17 5AU, UK): Well, this starts off as a serious explanation of the crop circle phenomenon in England but then it, well, deteriorates I guess is the word I want. Crunlop appears to be a few beans short of a pot at this point, and although his ranting makes for an excellent read, I remain unenlightened about the mysterious circles. (D-8/MG)

James N. Dawson, **ANIMAL RIGHTS, LIBERTARIANISM AND ENVIRONMENTALISM** ($2 fro PO Box 254, Calpella, CA 95418): An attempt to match a deep-felt reverence for life with an equally deep-felt reverence for property. Dawson believes that the free market is the best source of solutions to problems of the environment and animal rights, though he recognizes that many libertarians view animals as chattel property themselves. Thus it is an uneasy synthesis, but an interesting one. (S-5/MG)

**DEAR MR. BUCKS: THE BOXLER LETTERS, VOLUME ONE** ($11 from Fourteen Books, PO Box 1432, Denton, TX 76201): This is a curious item. Mr. Bucks is the president of the Mr. Ed Fan Club, and Mr. Boxler is a strange person who writes Mr. Bucks long letters. Boxler never leaves his home and has a television that receives programs no one else sees—and vice versa. There are all manner of tales here about the Boxler children and family and traditions, as well as Klaus Kinski and perhaps metaphysics. Very strange, and perhaps destined to be one of the classics of the marginal milieu. (S-30t/MG)

Three more from Wally DePew ($5 each from Bright Moments, PO Box 232, Patagonia, AZ 85624): A selection of handmade books with customized covers and frontispieces. **21 MORE COUNTINGS** explores various ways to enumerate the world, from the straightforward to the sublimely ridiculous. **FICTION: FORTUNE** seems almost like a flipbook, with its blocky shapes sliding up and down the page, recombining and splitting apart. **TOXIC** uses that word (plus a few others) in multi-layered rubber stamping. Playful explorations of language and typograpgy. (M-40/MG)

**D.I.E. - THE DEFENSE INITIATIVE EDGE** ($5 *CASH/MO* from Clifford J. Case, 341 W. Broadway #321, San Diego, CA 92101): A pamphlet aimed at women in fear of assault. It advocates being armed at all times with a spray container of formalin. There are various scenarios given fr using it, but that's the gist. An impassioned defense of *Lex Talionis* is part of the package. (S-7/MG)

Ken DiMaggio, **JOHNNY** (*Make check payable to Ken DiMaggio* $3.50 from Pinched Nerve Press, c/o S. Hartman, 1610 Ave. P #6B, Brooklyn, NY 11229): A morality tale riddled with nihilism, bullets and despair. The story reads like a modern Christ fable. It is the story of a high school kid whose awakenings to the hypocrisy and worthlessness of life take the form of drug addict parents, molesting pyschiatrists, burn-out friends and a superficial society. The symbolism is very blatant and many times you are slapped in the face with it—something which gets a little tedious. The town is called Dachau, the city is called My Lai, Johnny's doctor is Mengele, etc. Obvious symbols make a story such as this self-conscious and simplistic—but that's what morality plays are all about anyway. And perhaps that DiMaggio's point. (D-43/CG)

Yael Dragwyla, **CALLING THE 'GRAMS** and **MUTUAL RECEPTION, HOROMANCY AND MAGICK** (Respectively $2 and $4.50 from 2708 E. Cherry St., Seattle, WA 98122-4936): A pair of magickal treatises with a somewhat analytical bent. The first presents a method for constructing various useful pentagrams and hexagrams even when the mage is deprived of any instrument but the voice, based on a system of assigning Hebrew letters to the vertices. The second is on the relationship between predictive astrology and magick, discussing how the latter can be used to "reset" the predictions of the former. (S-7, S-27/MG)

**DRUG YOKO** ($2 (?) from Chris Butler, 1234 W. Winnemac Ave., Chicago, IL 60640): A few curious short stores sandwiched by a modern retelling of **THE THREE BEARS**. The first story is an enigmatic story about a professor and his Bela Lugosi-type sidekick, next comes "A Letter From Japan," which recounts a favorite violent evening of the author, and lastly comes a stream-of-consciousness dream verse about the results of a party—I think. Much of this is difficult to get into, perhaps the title indicates where my head is supposed to be at. Only 100 printed. (HL-18t/CG)

John Eberly, **WEAR YOUR LUNGS LIKE HEAVEN** (SASE from PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): Flowing torrents of words, streaming down the page. Sort of like blank verse, but with no hint of poetic lines, just blotches of what came out of the author's head. Illustrated with curious line drawings. (M-8/MG)

Mike Foster & Bill Knight, **THE CUB FAN'S CHRISTMAS WISH** ($4 from Mike Foster, Rt. 1, Metamora, IL 61548): A charming little story that combines baseball, Santa Claus, nostalgia for the 1940's and a subtheme of young love, all to good effect. The writing is polished, and it's enjoyable even if your knowledge of baseball is (like my own) rather sketchy. And of course for Cub fans this would be an ideal Christmas gift. (D-40t/MG)

**FRUIT SALAD** ($1 (?) from PO Box 235, Williamstown, MA 01267-0235): The latest from the Intergalactic House of Fruitcakes, the Otis-worshipping group designed to enlighten the masses. This week they're worshipping Fruit Salad, a substance which clearly holds up better than burnt offerings. Recipes included. (S-4/CG)

**FUCKED BANNED FRAMED** ($10 from Doil, 27 Pierce Ave. 1st Fl., Dorchester, MA 02122): Fifty pages of clippings and other ephemera documenting the rise and fall of G.G. Allin. It includes plenty of press coverage and reviews, show posters, photos, and a scattering of documents relating to his present incarceration. There are some lyrics and letters from GG as well. (S-50/MG)

**GANGRENE DREAMS** ($1.50 *CASH/Stamps* from Blake, 2537 Colgate Way, Riverside, CA 92507): A collection of prose and poetry, from somewhere on the free speech end of the punk art poet spectrum. There are a couple of essays on censorship concerns, including a rundown on the activities of the PMRC. Pretentious poets get poked at, and there are also instructions on turning a body into a chair. A bit deranged in places, you see. (D-40/MG)

**THE GREYS ARE HERE** ($5 from David Ross, PO Box 920066, Norcross, GA 30092): A summary of a lot of the current UFO theories related to aliens already on the earth,, based on information spread by the likes of William Cooper and O.H. Krill. This ranges from a description of aliens to the news of a planetoid-sized invasion craft on the way. No references given. (S-8t/MG)

Greg Stomberg, **G.W.SMITH** ($2.00 or Trade from Greg Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): A series of photos, ink drawings and poems from guitar-playin', god-lovin', roamin' cowboy Smith. Seems more like a tribute, really, with original poetry intact (which it sometimes hard to decipher), much of it handwritten. It would have stood out more if the copying efforts were a bit better. Photos by Stomberg of what seems to be Smith with compatriots or family. (M-31/CG)

Terri Havens, **A SPECTRUM** and **TRANSLUSCENT IMPLICATIONS** (2 stamps each from Terri Havens, 301 Court St., Little Valley, NY 14755): Two chapbooks of poetry filled with bleak images of needles, loneliness, guns and whipping cocks. Some pretty raw writing here—kind of makes me want to hug an orphan. (M-4r/CG)

Michael Helsem, **IPOMOEA** ($1 from 1031 Dewitt, Dallas, TX 75224): A booklet largely composed of baroque sentences produced by a computer program designed to mimic human writing. It used Poe's **RAVEN** as input, and Helsem has added a few transitions, but not nearly enough to bring a plot to it. A tangled, maddening web of words. (D-24/MG)

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Wayne Henderson, **RETURN TO SUMMER** ($3 from No Joke Publications, PO Box 50454, Austin, TX 78763-0454): Well, this chapbook proves that in addition to being a fine esoteric artist, Wayne is also a good downhome storyteller. This book covers times in the early 70s spent as a hippie in Maine: harassing the populace, doing bizarre things, smoking dope, and lolling around in the sun with other hippies. Darned good reading, if a bit farfetched in spots. (HL-40t/MG)

**HORROR PICTURE COLLECTION: MARIO BAVA** (3900 f. from Gerard Noel, 90, Rue Gandhi, 46000 Cahors, FRANCE): A photo tribute to "Il Maestro Italiano", with captions in French and a brief English introduction. Most of the photos here fit safely within the "women in peril" genre, full of bikinis and black leather and even a chain or two. Weird stuff. (D-40t/MG)

Julee-Peaslee, **THE DEVIL WALKS AMONG US** (75¢ from Julie Peasley, Dyslexic, PO Box 4763, Boulder, CO 80306): A slightly didactic book from Julie that seems much more serious than most of her mail art stuff. This one is first person views of a redneck south, where "nigger" is an accepted epithet. The tension between dehumanization and treating people well is laid out finely here, though not at all resolved. (D-28t/MG)

Karl Kempton & Jonathan Brannen, **THE PLURALED** (20¢ & a stamp from Geof Huth, RD 5, Currybush Rd., Schenectady, NY 12306): A quickie foldout of wordplay on cardstock. Kempton combines several words in the familiar rebus form to actually come up with a workable poem/equation. Brannen goes for some word addition, in which a number mutates into a letter and adds perfect sense. Cleverness. (MM-2/MG)

Joseph Kerrick, **THE IMAGO BABIES SAMPLER** ($2 from PO Box 17231, Philadelphia, PA 19105): Three chapters from Joseph's autobiography of the 60's and early 70's, together with an outline of the rest of the book. He talks of his theories of how the universe works, acid trips, and making contact with a feminist-led revolutionary group. An entertaining alternative chronicle. (S-34r/MG)

Frank Key, **HE KEEPS HIS GUTTA-PERCHA IN A GUNNY SACK** (£2. from the Malice Aforethought Press, 328 Brettenham Road, London, E17 5AU ENGLAND):I cannot improve upon the M.A.P. catalogue summary: "Frank has always kept his gutta-percha in a gunny sack. That's how he was brought up. To celebrate this fact, our doughty illustrator has prepared twenty-one "emblems" or "badges" which have been printed on blue paper and tipped-in to this alarmingly enigmatic little booklet. A must for all coffee-talbes, display cabinets, plan-chests, escritoires, counters, mantle-shelves, trestles, desks, hassocks, tripods and musnuds. Entirely free of explanatory texts, each emblem can be torn out of the book, scrunched up in an average-sized fist, ripped to pieces, and dispersed upon the winds, the gales, the howling tempests." Selah. (M-22/JR)

KILLER FROG EXPOSED ($2.50 from Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City, KS 66523-1329): This anthology subscribes to the theory of Bulldada—that which is so bad it's good. These stories and poems reflect that search. They are satirical horror stories that alternately leave one groaning or cocking a head in piqued curiosity. Check out "One Last Little Nibble," by Jazz Yewoo (a clever send-up of vampire vigilantes) and "The Pigeon," by Shannon Riley, a nimble little ditty joining Elvis and Poe. (D-41/CG)

O.H. Krill, **A SITUATION REPORT ON OUR ACQUISITION OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND INTERACTION WITH ALIEN CULTURES** ($6 from David Ross, PO Box 920066, Norcros, GA 30092): A new edition of one of the classic documents of modern UFOlogy, first distributed in samisdat and later through the computer networks. "Krill" is apparently a pseudonym for someone in the know, sort of like "Bruce Roberts" of the Gemstone File. Anyhow, this is all about the aliens that have infiltrated our society, cattle mutilations, battling groups within our government, secret underground bases, and much more. Wild and most likely not true, but fascinating reading. (S-31t/MG)

Lady Calypso, **THE ART OF PSYCHIC PROTECTION** ($2 from Laughing Coyote Press, 5338 Heather Glen, Garland, TX 75043): A pamphlet about what might be called "safe spirituality". Whatever your path, Calypso argues, it is important to take precautions, to use known ways of programming yourself to be protected. There are basic rituals here to do this, together with thoughts on why they work and when to use them. (M-20t/MG)

Joe Lane & Caesar Lindhersch **LITTLE NUNS** ($5 from Charles Schneider, 1626 N. Wilcox, Box # 356, Hollywood, CA 90028): Hijacked & perverted version of one of those pointless "lighter side of religion" cartoon books. Souped up with spewing dicks, kike-corpses and funny niggers. Billing itself as Satanic, I would agree, insofar as Satanism is a function of a bourgeois fascination with filth. Distasteful. (D-66/JR)

**LEAK!** (SASE from Mumbles, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): A small pamphlet that was apparently written by Al Ackerman. it brings together the eternal themes of amusement parks, religious television preachers, and bowel movements. Nasty work with a brown tuxedo. (D-4/MG)

Ginseng Fuchsia Lefleur, **BOOMERANG OF HATE** (Malice Aforethought Press, 328 Brettenham Road, London E17 5AU, ENGLAND): Poetry and prose which relentlessly crap on the carpets of the last few centuries of literature in the English language. There's a modern updating of Poe's "Cask of Amontillado", a pointlessly drug-sodden adventure On The Road, and swipes at everyone from Charles Dickens to Yoko Ono. Fabulously catty stuff. (D-35t/MG)

**LITTLE UNDERGROUND** ($2.00 and Age Statement from Kevin Mitchell, 6907 Barry Road, Tampa, FL 33634): Somewhat eery and very sensual art from Kevin Mitchell. Most of these small black and white prints are of an erotic nature, mostly women in compromising positions, but are not exploitive. Other sketches are less erogenous, but not less sensual. I especially like the knife cutting into the fruit, with a tear of juice flowing from it. (D-28/CG)

**LIGHT LIVING PACKET** ($2 from Light Living Library, PO Box 190-F, Philomath, OR 97370): This is a collection of light living tips, from running water and faucet alternatives to camping, house building and cooking. Comprehensive and user friendly, with hints on how to use everything. There is also an issue of **MESSAGE POST** included. (D-38r/CG)

**MARIJUANA AND THE BIBLE** ($3 (?) from Jeff Brown, PO Box 1161, Minneola, FL 34755-1161): The basic ideas of the Ethiopian Zion Coptic Church are elucidated in this booklet. Briefly, they believe that marijuana was a key component of most ancient religious traditions—sometimes explicitly, sometimes disguised as "incense" or "smoke". In particular, they hold that the Eucharist was in fact marijuana in a communal pipe, and celebrate Jesus in that manner today. Full of biblical quotes and notes from other traditions as well. (S-38/MG)

Bob Martin, **BLEEDING FROM THE HEAD** ($3 from Bob martin, PO Box 1711, Hoboken, NJ 07030): A selection from a work of autobiographical fiction in progress. Bob writes of family and growing up and the anguish of a nomadic life and unforgiven sins in the past, then turns to observing others in the netherworld below the middle class. Strong writing, real people. For an SASE you can get a sample, or if you order Bob's **BRAIN DAMAGE** (see the BOOKS section) you can get this for $1.50. (S-13/MG)

Tim Miske, **SAMOAN PIG FUCK** ($2 from PO Box 80572, Minneapolis, MN 55408): The title story is just one of the strange descriptive pieces in this collection. Miske writes of people going to hell and alienation and storms and weird people indeed—hard to tell what any of it means, but the storytelling is fierce. (D-36/MG)

**MONAMI** (10¢ & a stamp from K.A. Seckman, 155 W. Foxhill Dr., Buffalo Grove, IL 60089): A collection of fashion photography and rubber stampings, with a few images that cross the line to "dirty" thrown in. Seems something of an examination of the objectification of women. (D-8/MG)

**MOTION PICTURES COLLECTION: BORIS KARLOFF** ($8.25 from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210-1391): This is a French publication with a full-color cover (and some color interior shots), being classic photo reproductions as a tribute to Boris Karloff. All the famous roles are here, from the Mummy to the Lost Patrol to of course the classic Frankenstein's Monster. Photos are captioned in French, but if you watched all the old movies that's no impediment to enjoying them. (S-32/MG)

**MUMMIES** ($1.50 from Rich Gold, The Present Press, 815 N. Gardner St., Los Angeles, CA 90046): A selection of texts munged together by a computer program which takes into account word order and frequency. The result is a set of weird literary fusions, combiningCharles Dickens and Ivan Chtcheglov, or the I Ching and Italo Calvino, or Phil Dick with Alex Haley. Very odd prose is the result, hovering just beyond the edge of sense. (D-24t/MG)

**THE NAWA PRINCIPLES** ($3 from Earthmind, PO Box 189476, Sacramento, CA 95818): Mock-historical parables designed to help us all learn to make the world a better place to live in. It recounts the rise of the "Hunwa" over the past 6000 years (some people call them Capitalists, or Imperialists, or Big Business) and what the more gentle "Nawa" can do to oppose them. Full of reverence for the Earth and (most of) its people. (M-32r/MG)

Richard J. Neubauer, **RACING HOME** ($2 from 3963 N. Creek Rd, Palmyra, NY 14522): A short story about two kids on a farm who miss their dad. It's aimed, I think, at the children's market; at least, it seems altogether too minor to hold adult interest. But if it's a kid's book, it needs to have drawings and not be presented just as stapled typescript. (S-7/MG)

Kathy Nichols, **THE MUSICIAN'S GUIDE TO THE DALLAS-FORT WORTH METROPLEX** ($10 from 2828 Patricia #201-J, Garland, TX 75041): A fat manuscript of valuable contacts for the budding musician out around Dallas. Kathy starts with a few words on how to make contacts, but the meat here is the listings of the contacts themselves. There are sections for entertainment guides, public radio stations, record labels, stores, live venues, and more. Over 200 addresses in all. (S-51/MG)

**NOBODY REMEMBERS EVERYTHING** ($6.50 from Vince Leo, 3232 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55407): A chronology of events involving free speech, art, and harassment of the same in America, beginning with the organization of the IWW in 1905 and running through 1990's NEA goings-on. In between, you get plenty of history to show that the modern censorship crackdown is nothing especially new, and that radicals have always had to fight for their free speech in this country. A valuable compendium of depressing news. (S-56t/MG)

John B. O'Donnell, **THREE STEPS TO ECONOMIC FREEDOM** ($10 from PO Box 120634, Chula Vista, CA 92012): Substitled "An exposition of the causes of economic stagnation and their remedies", this booklet proposes establishing a stable currency, taxing monopoly, and then distributing dividends to citizens as steps to prosperity. It's a mix of economic theory, post-Georgist thinking, and computer simulations, with different simplifying assumptions than economists usually use. I can pass no verdict on its plausibility, but at least most of what O'Donnell has to say can be understood in only one or two readings, in contrast to my economics text from college. (S-48t/MG)

**OPIATE OF THE FEW (AGNOSTICS ANONYMOUS)** ($4 (?) from Randy Hood, 4572 Via Marina #210, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292): No, this is not for people recovering from agnosticism. Rather, it's for people who see that Scientific Materialism is itself a religion, and who consider it the best one around. There are outlines for meetings (starting with a rock music "hymnal"), essays about what is true or at least probable, and reading lists for the intellectual and the "joy of false religions" sides of your brain. A bit sketchy and idiosyncratic in places, but of interest to freethinkers. (S-33t/MG)

**THE PAN-O-LA AND OTHER HOME MADE INSTRUMENTS YOU CAN BUILD** ($3 from Rick Ulman, PO Box 15075, St. Louis, MO 63110): Rick is one half of the musical group Fydlstyx, and here he carries their delightful musical "anyone-can-do-it" attitude over to the printed page. You'll learn how to make instruments fro mcombs, gourds, juice cans, even a crutch. The drawings are clear and the happy spirit is infectious. Probably a specially good bet for those with innovative kids. (HS-20/MG)

**PARTICLES FROM SPACE** (£1 from Ben Allen, 1 Carnhill Avenue, Carnmoney, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim, N. IRELAND): A Neoist-influenced publication of recombined words and densely overlaid pictures. International signs, helicopters, the world of science and topographic maps are a few of the sources mined here for images. In two colors on heavy stock. (A4-20/MG)

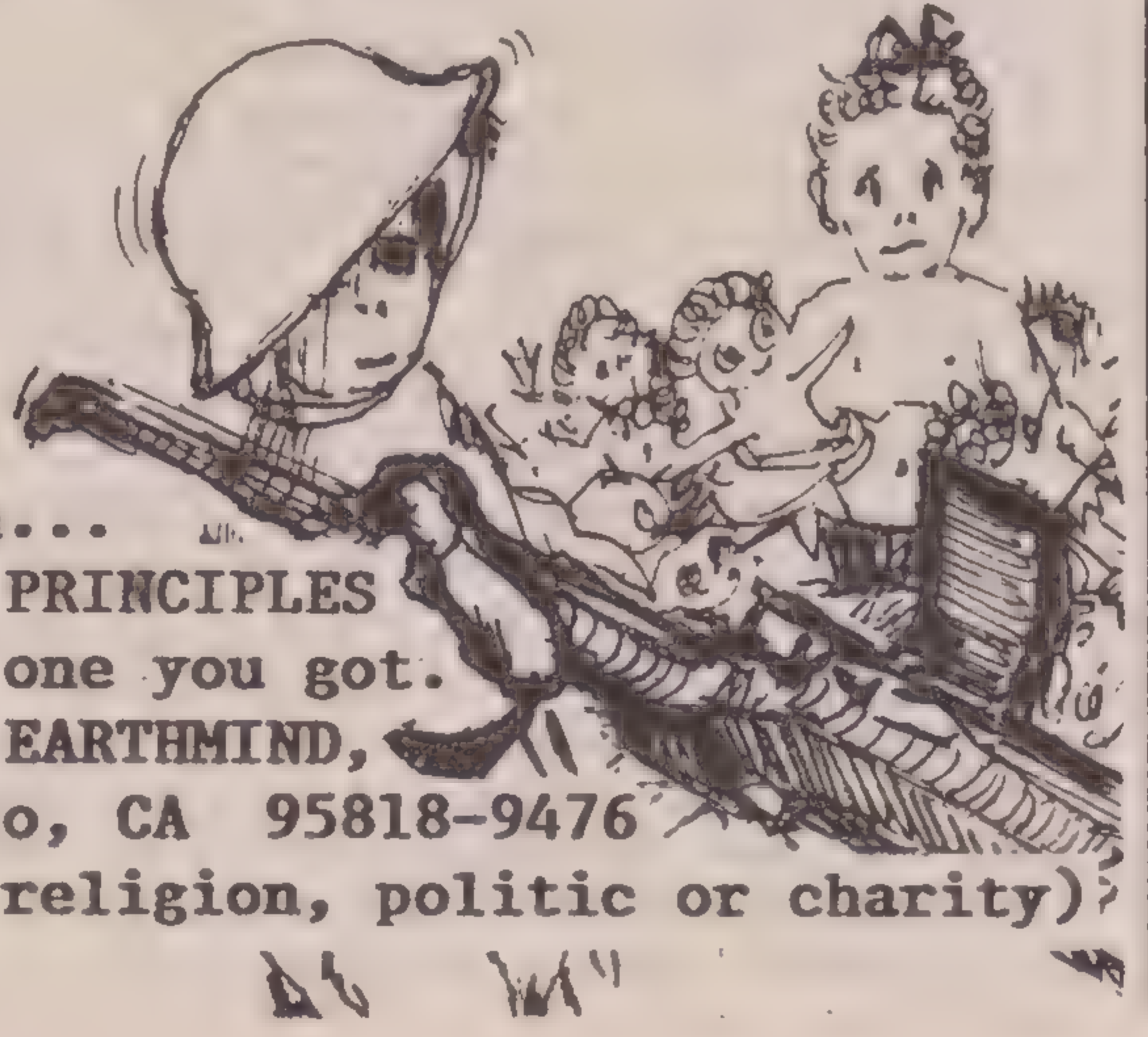
**SPIKE & SCISSORS** B. Penney (£1/$2 from PO Box 664, London, E5 OJW UK): Twisted tale of what sounds like a late descendant or, to be up to date, an 18th generation xerox, of Raskolnikov, driven to murder by loneliness and a concern for the bloodless, soundless suffering of plants. Distressing and obsessed, and unrelieved by insight or realisation. (A4-31/JR)

Jane Poe, **33 NIGHTMARES** ($6 *Cash only* from 350 San Jose #3, San Francisco, CA 94110): Subtitled "2 tails, 3 pre-dictionary poemmms," I'm not sure if a stoned survivor of a 60's love-in could groove with this. To be sure, there are 33 nightmares—those read like dreams read, and are quite interesting, although filled with images that seem a bit contrived. But the other stuff is self-conscious poetry mixed with the swagger of the world traveler. However, the Wedding Cake Runaway is clever and rings true. The other depreciating factor is the handwritten verses vs. the typewritten verses—the typewriter is in terrible need of an "E" key. It would have taken less time to find another typewriter than to fill in all the "E" spots, which is what the author has done. (HL-25/CG)

**SHROOMHEAD** John Potash ($1? from Tom Diventi, 2924 E. Coldspring Lane, Baltimore, MD 21214): A booklet in the 60's drugged-out exuberant runonsentence unpunctuated punabusive style, relating Shroomhead's career from collegiate doping through a series of jobs. Not very easy to follow after a while. Perhaps it would take a few tokes to tune in on this. (D-8t/JR)

Gerry Reith, **VERDICT ON FACTSHEET FIVE** (25¢ from Bob Black, Slobboviated Press, PO Box 2159, Albany, NY 12220): A rather mean-spirited assessment of this publication, penned (if the attribution is correct) at least 4 years ago, unless Black is now channeling Reith from beyond the grave. Reith repeats criticisms that have already been answered here in the past; there seems no need to do anything with this beyond letting his spirit rest as peacefully as possible. (S-3/MG)

Michael Roll, **THE PHYSICISTS' AND RATIONALISTS' CASE FOR SURVIVAL AFTER THE DEATH OF OUR PHYSICAL BODIES** (20p from 28, Westerleigh Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 6AH, UK): Well, the author will accuse me of suppressing the facts, just as he does the Scientific Establishment and the Catholic Church, but I've still got to say: he doesn't know what he's talking about. He takes a few pop-physics facts (such as the fact that the neutrino mostly passes through matter without interacting) and makes the leap of faith to the idea that physics has discovered the invisible world,



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which of course is the same realm that the psychics and spiritualists work in. A confused muddle. (D-24r/MG)

K.A. Seckmman, **A SHIVER TRICKLED DOWN HER SPINE** ( $1 from 155 W. Foxhill Dr., Buffalo Grove, IL 60089): A mini dividing its space between tiny print and tiny pictures whose meaning escapes me. I suppose it's all *of a feeling*, and one I can't grasp. "Prose for the Ray Series" is minimal with some photos of faraway houses, train tracks and foliage. Words are clipped from printed sources and serve as non-sequitors to pictures of things like pelvic muscles and a 1949 train ticket. (M-10/CG)

Spencer Selby, **STIGMA** ($2 (?) from Score, 491 Mandana Blvd., Oakland, CA 94610): A collection of altered texts and collages. Selby works, for the most part, by taking some moderately technical text or drawing and overlaying it with other material: dots and boxes, people photos, experimenters, and so on. In doing this he reduces text to wallpaper, or interacting shapes, and divides it from the mystical act of meaning. Hard to digest, but worth contemplation. (HL-32/MG)

L. Smith, **YOU SAY WHAT YOU MEAN AND MEAN WHAT YOU SAY** (Large SASE from L.G. Smith, 106 W. O'Dell, Austin, TX 78752): A selection of short writings by Smith, many of which seem to be unfinished or vignettes. Abusive relationships are the main focus, with some of the writing here being quite disturbing. (S-8/MG)

**START YOUR OWN "REVOLUTION", THE THIRD WAY,** and **WHAT IS DISTRIBUTISM?** (On request from Third Way, PO Box 10203, Arlington, VA 22210): A trio of pamphlets explaining some of the basic political and economic ideals of the Third Way. They believe in separating different races, demolishing big business and big government, and revolution rather than reform. I treat them with suspicion, as I do anyone else who sees integration as a bad thing. But the writing is pretty straightforward and the ideas expressed in level-headed ways. (D-4/MG)

**STATE OF THE ART** ($1 from Bureau of Control, 18210 Blanchmont, Houston, TX 77058): Subtitled "For Today's Artist", this examination of the art business finds it to be like a Twinkie, a fluffy skin of PR around a vacuous interior. While avoiding the heavy rhetoric of the art strikers, the author suggests that true art happens when there is no artist/audience barrier. A nice intro to radical art critiques for those unfamiliar with the field. (M-40/MG)

**STEPS TOWARD INNER PEACE** (contribution from Friends of Peace Pilgrim, 43480 Cedar Ave., Hemet, CA 92344): A drastic condensation of the book "Peace Pilgrim," reviewed in F5 # 38. Her claim to attention was the way she lived her beliefs, not the beliefs themselves. Here, without the anecdotal background, the ideas come off banal—which they shouldn't as they aren't. (M-32t/JR)

**STONEWIND HAWKHENGE** and **STONEHENGE DECODED** (£1 & postage each from Hawkfrendz, PO Box 6, Liscard, Wallasey, Merseyside, L45 4SJ, UK): A pair of pamphlets from people who are inspired by the musical group Hawkwind and modern resistance movements. They chronicle the continuing battle of the alternative community in Britain to celebrate solstices and equinoxes at Stonehenge, much to the distaste of the Establishment. Clippings, writings, schedules, comics and more. (D-36r/MG)

**SUDDENLY—NO MORE TIME** ($2.50 from Southwest Radio Church, PO Box 1144, Oklahoma City, OK 73101): The Southwest Radio Church sends out all sorts of bizarre pamphlets about the rapidly coming End Times. This one is more amusing than most, since it pretty well sets the end of the world before 1990 (it was originally put out in 1982). A strange discussion of exponential growth and the words of the prophets. (D-66t/MG)

**TARTU SHADOWS** (Trade Only from John Held Jr., 1903 McMillan Ave., Dallas, TX 75206): Subtitled "Proceedings of the International Mail Art Symposium in the USSR", this is John's account of a recent trip to see some of his fellow mail artists, perform, and lecture. Another document of the grassroots intercultural exchange. (D-12t/MG)

**A TEXTBOOK ON THE NOBLE ART OF OBSERVING PEOPLE** (50¢ from Colin Upton, 6424 Chester, Vancouver, BC, V5W 3C3, CANADA): Colin does wonderful documentary minicomics, a number of which are reviewed in this FF. This booklet is a text mini, explaining his basic strategy for spotting, documenting and completing stories. "Whoever said art must be created from nothing was a putz!! Reality is unavoidable!" (M-8/MG)

**TRANSIENT ORDER OF THE MAGICAL BLACK-EYED SUSAN** (on request from Osselman, 1500 Circleville Rd. #25, State College, PA 16803): "Another Neo-Pagan idea," this extremely agreeable group has cobbled together a faith based on the abovementioned flower and Yukon Jack. Founding Mother Osselman explains: "The advantage to having one's own cult with a membership of one is that I can make all the rules & no one objects but rather thinks they're the best ideas ever." (S-2/JR)

**TWO FISTED GREETING CARDS** ($1.50 *CASH/Stamps* from Blake, 2537 Colgate Way, Riverside, CA 92507): A collection of essays from Geoff Gallagher and Blake Edwards, two guys who are apparently driven to get their gut feelings down on paper. They talk about communication, and relationships, and censorship, and avoiding media manipulation, and more. It's nice to see people thinking about issues, and nicer to see the thought shared. (D-40/MG)

Joseph A. Uphoff Jr., **NAVIGATION PROBLEMS IN STELLAR TRAFFIC** ($2 (?) from Arjuna Library, 1025 Garner St. D, Space 18, Colorado Springs, CO 80905): A linked set of short prose pieces, more intelligible than Uphoff's usual thicket of mathematical symbols. They're still not crystal clear, but there is some feel here of civilization confronted with superior mysteries, and of people desperately trying to cope. For the surreal side of your brain. (D-30/MG)

Ralph Vaughan (ed.), **BENEATH TWIN MOONS** ($2.50 from 353 Oxford St., Chula Vista, CA 92011): A collection of short stories and poems about the planet Mars. There is some good work here; in particular, Wayne Edwards contributes a mind-stretching poem about a Martian snowman, while PRS Schwartz writes a fine story of mountain-climbing on Olympus Mons. (D-36/MG)

**VENCEREMOS!** ($1 (?) from B.A.D. Brigade, PO Box 1323, Cambridge, MA 02238): A pamphlet of anarchist rhetoric from Cuba, endorsed by the Boston Anarchist Drinking Brigade and probably available from them. The authors show how the Communists in Cuba are just another bunch of exploiters, and argue against US leftist support of the Castro regime. Also available is a communique about the dismal conditions independent agitators are subjected to in that country. (D-8r/MG)

**WE'RE GOING BUGS FOR CHRISTMAS** (ON REQUEST FROM Spring Audio, Inc., PO Box 365, Gracie Station, New York, NY 10028): This twistedly festive bit of promo qualifies as a little work of art: they've taken the usual Christmas imagery, stockings, mangers, Santa-hats, and collaged them with all manner of horrid bug pics in the name of hustling tapes of James Hillman, the reigning Jungian. The blurbography sports masterpieces of saucy bluntness. An odd, delightful document that has no business being put out by what is known to be a staid academic press. (S-1t/JR)

**WHAT IS LOGLAN?** (On Request from The Loglan institute, 1701 NE 75th St., Gainesville, FL 32601): This is a basic introduction to the idea of Loglan, an artificial language developed by James Cooke Brown in the late 50s and early 60s (see, for example, the June 1960 SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN). The brochure explains why one would want such a language, and goes on to list the resources offered by the Institute for learning it. (S-6t/MG)

Dale Andrew White, **ILLITERATURE** ($5 from Twin Rivers Press, PO Box 119, Ellenton, FL 34222): A collection of fiction with the subtitle "Made-to-Fit Fiction For The Maladjusted". White has a weird way of looking at things which, though sometimes pushed too far, generally results in admirably imaginative excursions. Two of my favorites are "Lunacy Grounded", about a man who refuses to be down-to-earth, and the story of a Hell becoming more humanistic "Scenic Hell Becomes Vacation Hot Spot". (D-120/MG)

Dale Andrew White, **MOE HOWARD DIED FOR OUR SINS** (50¢ from Twin Rivers Press, PO Box 119, Ellenton, PA 34222): A clever sendup of cult deprogramming and religious fervor. The narrator reveals the sordid truth behind his seduction into becoming, yes, a Stooge. Rubber mallets, pie throwing and hair pulling are all features of this cult. Luckily for him, he was saved by loving parents and wants now to spread the word of warning. (S-2/CG)

**WHY ARE WE HERE?** (SASE & trade "of interest to a 6 year old boy" from Jerod Pore, 1800 Market St. #141, San Francisco, CA 94102): The Pore graphics talent passes down one generation, with this being put together by Andrew. It resembles his dad's work quite a bit, a collage of computer bits and programming and strange advertising imagery. I think the kid's got a future in zinedom. (S-8/MG)

**WHY NO HOLY VEGETABLE** ($1 *CASH/Stamps* from The Church of Tina Chopp, PO Box 1914, Bellingham, WA 98227-1914): For those unfamiliar with The Church of Tina Chopp, theirs is a religion where the Holy Vegetable is worshipped, along with other Tinite rituals. In this present incarnation, the HV takes the form of the multi-faceted Hemp plant and this comic art pamphlet contains a message: an unsolicited endorsement for the National Organization for the Reformation of Marijuana Laws (NORML). Lots o' facts about this wondrous plant, plus clever pokes at everyday culture where tobacco and alcohol are not considered drugs. Read it and praise Tina. (MM-24r/CG)

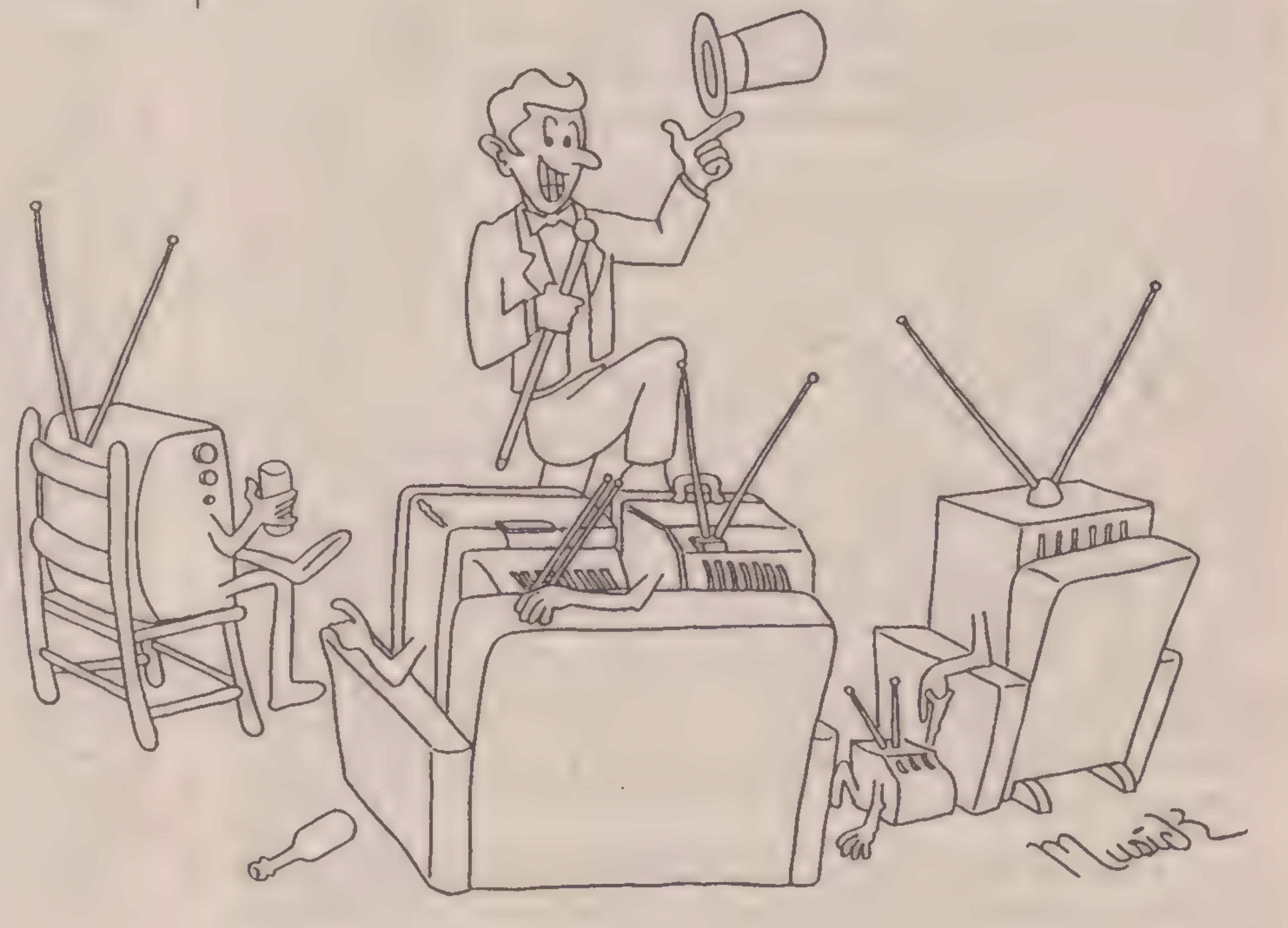
**A WORLD WITH A CHARLES MANSON THEME PARK** ($1.50 *CASH/Stamps* from Blake, 2537 Colgate Way, Riverside, CA 92507): A selection of short writings of various sorts. Black talks more about censorship, interviews Genesis P. Orridge, and tells of getting screwed over by a friend. There';s a cute poem for illiterates and a doom and gloom fashion show as well. Pokes some well-needed fun at the scene. (D-40/MG)

I.R. Ybarra, **RENT: AN INJUSTICE** ($1 from The Match, PO Box 3488, Tucson, AZ 85722): A collection of anti-landlord anarchist rhetoric from the pages of **THE MATCH.** Though Ybarra is roused to heights of passion byt he injustice of it all, there doesn't seem to be any suggestion to an alternative to renting a place to live, except for vague hints that it would be different (in an unspecified way) in a free society. Somehow I just can't get as worked up about it as the author does. (M-16t/MG)

Linda Yurkoski, **GRIZZLY!** ($2 from PO Box 866, Penticton, BC, V2A 7G1, CANADA): This is actually more of a manuscript than a one-shot, being a short story written and printed out from Linda's computer. The subject is living in the Canadian wilderness, surrounded by grizzly bears, and the struggles some people have in doing so. The ending is sort of schmaltzy, and there are rough edges throughout, but I found it absorbing while reading. (S-9/MG)

## PAMPHLET NOTES

- In the future, we do not intend to review unpublished manuscripts. If you can't be bothered to put them up as a pamphlet, preferably proofread, then we can't be bothered to review them.
- A reprint of Edward Bellamy's chapter on the transition to a better socialist world, from his book **EQUALITY**, is available for $2 from Philip S. Hensel, 612 Colorado Ave., Baltimore, MD 21210.
- Yael Dragwyla (PO Box 45792, Seattle, WA 98145-0792) has a cleaned up edition of her **THE SPARE SIGIL: ITS CONSTRUCTION, USE, CARE AND FEEDING** [reviewed in FF38] out. It's $4.50 in the country, plus 25% for air mail elsewhere.
- Jeffrey Scott New (#154357, Box 7 - 2d, 575, Moberly, MO 65270) has put together some booklets on subjects like brewing your own cordials and getting Federal financial aid. He's looking for someone to go into partnership mail-ordering them.
- **Sunshine Publications** (PO Box 830, Ooltewah, TN 37363) is still selling reprints of various of Ben Klassen's essays. A recent entry is **THE GREATEST HOAX OF ALL TIME**, questioning the historicity of Jesus and putting Christianity down as a Jewish plot. Available for 50¢ & SASE. For the same price you can also get a reprint of Morris Beale's anti-AMA "Killer Drugs" and other rants about the evils of the modern medical industry. He's also working through pamphlets by Nicholas Carter, whose **JUDAISM** is pretty stereotypically bigoted. Then there's **VAMPIRES AND CANNIBALS: THEY ARE REAL AND EXIST TODAY**, slurring both Blacks and Jews.



# MARGINALIA

introduced by Jacob Rabinowitz

This column will basically be what I think are the most important tremors from the Underground. The first to show up on seismograph is Hakim Bey, author of "Chaos, the Broadsheets of Ontological Anarchism," a man best known for his ability to confuse politics with poetry and draw others into the mist. He inhabits a seedy Tong-run hotel in NYC in a room overflowing with books and papers like the records bureau of a country too small to appear on the map. The true tale of his past is lost in a welter of pseudonyms, covert operations, and deliberate hoaxes. Something between a Sufi *pir* and a carny barker, he lures the unwary into his intellectual pleasure gardens with promises of revealing "Secrets of the Orient"—the next dawn sees another grail knight's bones whitening in the sand—of Hakim and his tented splendors there is no trace beyond an overlooked tentpeg or a few camel-turds in the dunes like peppercorns strewn on a heap of salt.

## BOYCOTT COP CULTURE!!

If one fictional figure can be said to have dominated the popcult of the 80s, it was the Cop. Fuckin police everywhere you turned, worse than real life. What an incredible bore.

Powerful Cops — protecting the meek & humble — at the expense of a halfdozen or so articles of the Bill of Rights — "Dirty Harry". Nice human cops, coping with human perversity, coming out sweet'n'sour, you know, gruff & knowing but still soft inside — "Hill Street Blues" — most evil TV show ever. Wiseass black cops scoring witty racist remarks against hick white cops, who nevertheless come to love each other — Eddie Murphy, Class Traitor. For that masochist thrill we got wicked bent cops who threaten to topple our Kozy Konsensus Reality from within like Giger-designed tapeworms but naturally get blown away just in the nick of time by the Last Honest Cop, Robocop, ideal amalgam of prosthesis and sentimentality.

We've been obsessed with cops since the beginning — but the rozzers of yore played bumbling cops, Keystone Kops, Car 54 Where Are You, booby-bobbies set up for Fatty Arbuckle or Buster Keaton to squash & deflate. But in the ideal drama of the 90s, the "little man" who once scattered bluebottles by the hundred with that anarchist's bomb, innocently used to light a cigarette — the Tramp, the victim with the sudden power of the pure heart — no longer has a place at the center of narrative. Once "we" were that hobo, that quasi-surrealist chaote hero who wins through *wu-wei* over the ludicrous minions of a despised & irrelevant Order. But now "we" are reduced to the status of victims *without* power, or else criminals. "We" no longer occupy that central role; no longer the heros of our own story, we've been marginalized and replaced by the Other, the Cop.

Thus the Cop Show has only three characters — victim, criminal and policeperson — but the first two fail to be fully human — only the pig is *real*. Oddly enough, human society in the 80s (as seen in the other media) sometimes appeared to consist of the same cliche/archetypes. First the victims, the whining minorities bitching about "rights" — and who pray tell did *not* belong to a "minority" in the 80s? Shit, even cops complained about their "rights" being abused. Then the criminals: largely non-white (despite the obligatory & hallucinatory "integration" of the media), largely poor (or else obscenely rich, hence even more alien), largely perverse (i.e., the forbidden mirrors of "our" desires). I've heard that one out of every four American households is robbed every year, & that every year nearly half a million of us are arrested just for smoking pot. In the face of such statistics (even assuming they're "damned lies") one wonders who is NOT either victim or criminal in our police-state-of-consciousness. The fuzz must mediate for *all of us*, however fuzzy the interface — they're our only warrior-priests, however profane.

"America's Most Wanted" — the most successful TV gameshow of the 80s — opened up for all of us the role of Amateur Cop, hitherto merely a media fantasy of middleclass resentment & revenge. Naturally the truelife Cop hates no one so much as the vigilante — look what happens to poor &/or non-white neighborhood self-protection groups like the Muslims who tried to eliminate crack dealing in Brooklyn: the cops busted the Muslims, the pushers went free. Real vigilantes threaten the monopoly of enforcement, *lese majeste*, more abominable than incest or murder. But media(ted) vigilantes function perfectly within the CopState; in fact, it would be more accurate to think of them as *unpaid* (not even a set of matched luggage!) *informers*: telemetric snitches, electro-stoolies, ratfinks-for-a-day.

What is it that "America Most Wants"? Does this phrase refer to criminals — or to crimes, to objects of desire in their real presence, unrepresented, unmediated, literally stolen & appropriated? America most wants.....to fuck off work, ditch the spouse, do drugs (because only drugs make you feel as good as the people in TV ads appear to be), have sex with nubile jailbait, sodomy, burglary, hell yes. What unmediated pleasures are NOT illegal? Even outdoor barbecues violate smoke ordinances nowadays. The simplest enjoyments turn us against some law; finally pleasure becomes too stress-inducing, and only TV remains — and the pleasure of revenge, vicarious betrayal, the sick thrill of the tattletale. America can't have what it wants, so it has "America's Most Wanted" instead. A nation of schoolyard toadies sucking up to an elite of schoolyard bullies.

Of course the program still suffers from a few strange reality-glitches: for example, the dramatized segments are enacted cinema-verite-style by *actors*; some viewers are so stupid they believe they're seeing actual footage of real crimes. Hence the actors are being continually harassed & even arrested, along with (or instead of) the real criminals whose mugshots are flashed after each little documentoid. How quaint, eh? No one really experiences anything — everyone reduced to the status of ghosts — media-images break off & float away from any contact with actual everyday life — PhoneSex — CyberSex. Final transcendance of the body: Cyber-Gnosis.

The media cops, like televangelical forerunners, prepare us for the advent, final coming, or Rapture of the police state: the "Wars" on sex and drugs; total control totally leached of all content; a map with no coordinates in any known space; far beyond mere Spectacle; sheer ecstasy ("standing-outside-the-body"); obscene simulacrum; meaningless violent spasms elevated to the last principle of governance. Image of a country consumed by images of self-hatred, war between the schizoid halves of a split personality, Super-Ego vs the Id Kid, for the heavyweight championship of an abandoned landscape, burnt, polluted, empty, desolate, unreal.

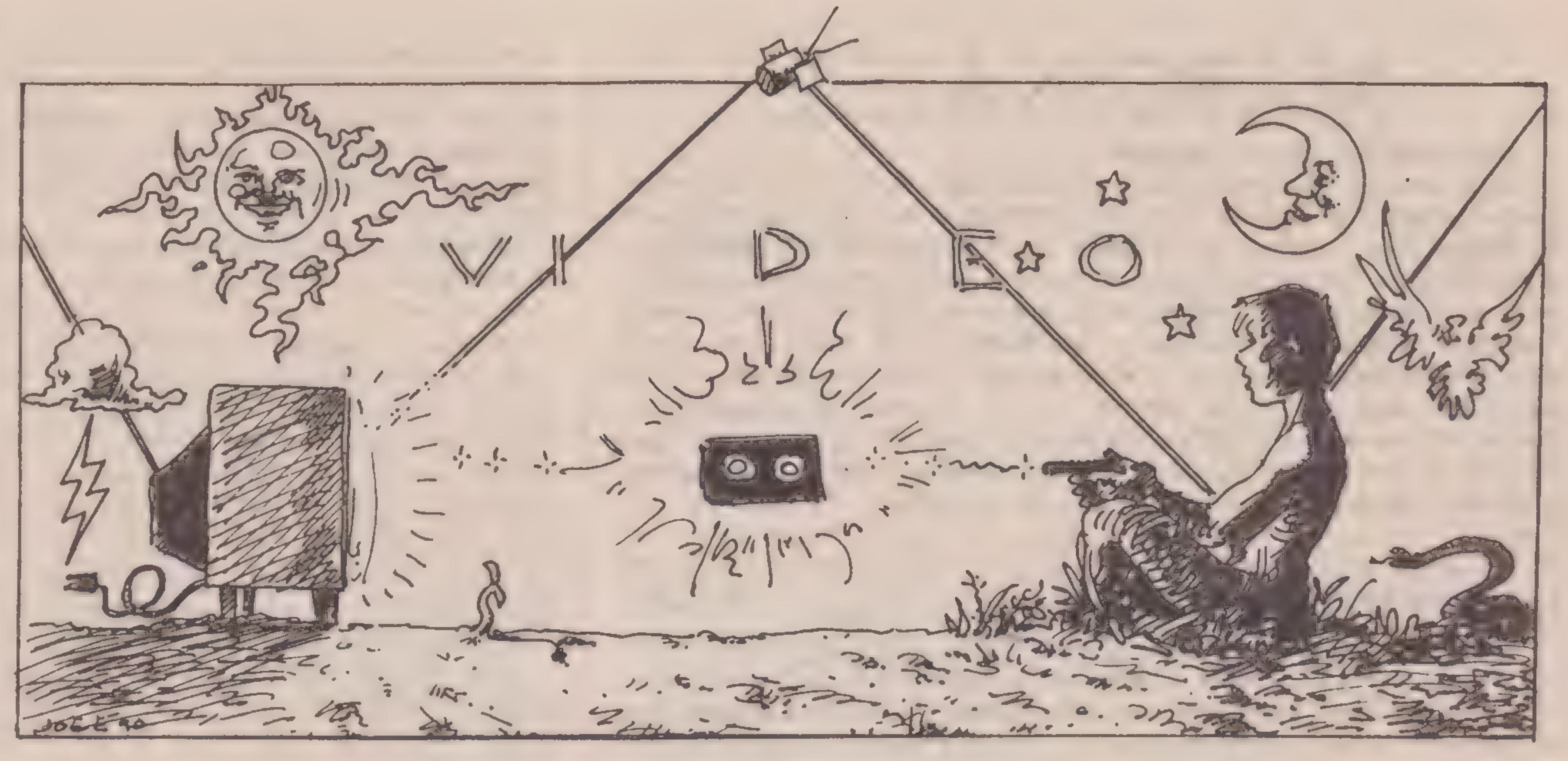
Just as the murder-mystery is always an exercise in sadism, so the cop-fiction always involved the contemplation of *control*. The image of the inspector or detective measures the image of "our" lack of autonomous substance, our transparency before the gaze of authority. Our perversity, our helplessness. Whether we imagine them as "good" or "evil", our obsessive invocation of the eidolons of the Cops reveals the extent to which we have accepted the Manichean worldview they symbolize. Millions of tiny cops swarm everywhere, like the *qlippoth*, larval hungry ghosts — they fill the screen, as in Keaton's famous 2-reeler, overwhelming the foreground, an Antarctic where nothing moves but hordes of sinister blue penguins.

We propose an esoteric hermeneutical exegesis of the Surrealist slogan *"Mort aux vaches!"* We take it not to refer to the deaths of individual cops ("cows" in the argot of the period) — mere leftist revenge fantasy — petty reverse sadism — but rather to the death of the *image* of the *flic*, the inner Control & its myriad relections in the no-place-place of the media — the "gray room" as Burroughs calls it. Self-censorship, fear of one's own desires, "conscience" as the interiorized voice of consensus-authority. To assassinate these "security forces" would indeed release floods of libidinal energy, but not the violent running-amok predicted by the theory of Law'n'Order. Nietzschean "self-overcoming" provides the principle of organization for the free spirit (as also for anarchist society, at least in theory). In the police-state personality, libidinal energy is dammed & diverted toward self-repression; any threat to Control results in spasms of violence. In the free-spirit personality, energy flows unimpeded & therefore turbulently but gently — its chaos finds its strange attractor, allowing new spontaneous orders to emerge.

In this sense, then, we call for a boycott of the image of the Cop, and a moratorium on its production in art. In this sense.....

## MORT AUX VACHES!

Hakim Bey



**ANSWERING QUESTIONS** ($6 from Friends of Peace Pilgrim, 43480 Cedar Ave., Hemet, CA 92344): Peace Pilgrim is a woman famous for walking more than 25,000 miles for peace—and that's just where she stopped counting. She was a sufi-like holy wanderer and teacher of radical non-violence to her death. This is 55 minutes of Peace addressing an applied psychology class at the U. of GA. Nothing here that isn't in her book, (a complitation of interviews &c, put together posthumously, $1.50 from the above address,) but still it was fun to finally see and hear her. She has a high voice with a strange but pleasing intonation—a little reminiscent of Glinda the Good Witch in the Wizard of Oz. She accompanied her words with effective hand-gestures, and the overall effect I found strangely intoxicating and cheering—but I'm a fan of hers, so it's no surprise I got spiritual chills from seeing her. The faces of the students were interesting: the women, enraptured; the men, suspicious. A glimpse of a real-life American saint, and as such extremely valuable and interesting. (JR)

★★★★★

**BACK STREET JANE** (Scorched Earth productions, 2201 S. Clayton, Denver, CO 80210): This "modern film noir" is one of the best independent films we've been sent to review here. It's a complex story of double-crossing in the dangerous world of cocaine dealing, but on the street level rather than in some casino or smoky back room. Monica McFarland, Marlene Shapiro and Sheila Ivy Traister make a daunting trio of female leads, working with and against one another for the prize of the drugs. The camera work and pacing are excellent, and the film really works well in black and white. The ending is one of the most grisly shockers I've seen in some time, believable enough to be truly scary. Not suitable for minors, of course, since as they say "contains violence, nudity, drug abuse, profanity, and sexual situations". But for you grown-ups, this is a film worth chasing down. (MG)

★★★★★

**BAKED BABY JESUS** ($12 from Michael C. Diana, PO Box 5254, Largo, FL 34649-5254): A collection of short features from the producer of **BOILED ANGEL** zine, and about as socially redeeming—in other words, not fit for human consumption. The title cut features anal rape by an allegorical figure I presume is meant to represent the Holy Spirit, followed by the cooking and eating of the stillborn "Second Cumming". That sets the tone for the rest, an orgy of blasphemy, necrophilia, and grossouts. There's a visit to the local baby cemetary, an interminably revolting sequence featuring a dog who likes to eat spit, and some stomach-turning faked corpse scenes. It's tapes like this that make even free-speech fanatics wonder about video camera licensing laws. (MG)

★★★★★

**BIKINI GIRL MAGAZINE** Vol.1 #10 ($47 & Age Statement from Lisa B. Herskovits, PO Box 319, Peter Stuyvesant Sta., New York, NY 10009-0319): A patchwork quilt of home movies, bits of music videos, street scenes and sophomoric dada. Often, annoyingly, a brief section is repeated on a loop, treating the film, or rather the viewer, as a percussion instrument. High point: where we see through a porthole a five minute long shot of water while a lady complains in Yinglish how horrible the trip was—either that or where Lisa, tied up with corset and ball-gag flops around on the floor like a no longer very fresh fish. A garbage heap of cinematic free-association, so shapeless as to make the credits that occasionally flashed the only indication we were actually progressing towards the end. (JR)

★★★★★

**GROW WITH SOUND & SPRAY** ($15 from Aquarian Research Foundation, 5620 Morton St., Philadelphia, PA 19144): This is a video about the Sonic Bloom technique for growing plants, which combines a seaweed-based spray of nutrients with an oscillating high-pitched noise, played at the plants. The latter apparently helps open the plants' stomata, leading to better nutrient absorption and faster carbon dioxide uptake. Whatever the explanation, the results are impressive: nuts on two-year old trees that otherwise would have taken ten years to produce, radishes the size of beets (and not woody inside), diseased plants rejuvenated, and more. Art Rosenblum takes his video camera around to a couple of farms using the technique, and finds increased yields, faster production, less disease, lowered insect problems, and higher nutrition—all good things. One apple grower was having particularly impressive results combining Sonic Bloom with Integrated Pest Management techniques. This certainly looks like it's worth following up. (MG)

★★★★★

**HOOP SKIRT, LOOP YARN** ($20 from Box Dog Video, PO Box 9609, Seattle, WA 98109): A mix of music videos and homemade films, this one has a lot to offer. It opens with a super video from Steel Pole Bathtub, and later present good work from Mudhoney and Weather Theater—the latter previously unknown to me, but superb. For the film parts, there's a weird GI Joe animated short, an extended documentary on The Shembs with a few good jokes, and a reinterpretation of Bruce Springsteen, as well as a movie that is almost all trailer. Things are not perfect here; the editing is rough in spots, and the running times on the enclosed card bear little relation to reality in some cases. Still, for a few hours of video, the price is pretty good. (MG)

★★★★★

**MASTER/SLAVE RELATIONSHIP**, "Forced Abandon" (PO Box 191211, San Francisco, CA 94119): Half a dozen short video clips from Debbie Jaffe. They feature a variety of bondage and submission settings, with a little water sports and blasphemy thrown in for good measure. All of this is accompanied by eerie electronic music and Debbie's own penetrating spoken-word lyrics, exploring some of the fringes of pornography and sexuality. Strong in its effect without actually getting graphic for more than a moment or two. The video is processed to match the music, with plenty of freeze action and false color. (MG)

★★★★★

**THE NEW BELIEVERS** ($19.95 from Monticello Productions, 1822 Easterly Terr., Los Angeles, CA 90026): The phrase that comes to mind to describe this video documentary is "hoist by their own petard". In this half-hour color film, Tom Corboy takes a look at the New Age movement, letting four practitioners speak for themselves, and a motley collection they are. Shawn Shelton is basically a crystal entrepreneur, with a house full of pieces of rock with price tags, and a mishmash of physics language to describe what purportedly happens when you dump them in your bath.

Margaret Rogers comes across as the most sincere and loony of the bunch, doing crystal acupuncture on cats, aromatherapy for people, and channeling Jesus, Zoraster, and a few other great spiritual leaders. Master Ho is another crystal therapist who has a fine knack of showmanship. He's a snappy dresser who talks to aliens (and hints that he himself might be one), although just when things are getting interesting he cuts himself off saying "Sorry, they won't let me reveal any more". Then there's Neville Rowe, who channels a whole school of dolphins at once (his imitation of dolphin vocalization is, I have to admit superb), and explains that Hitler was probably a great spiritual master—most of those Jews, you see, were reincarnated Visigoths who wanted to see what genocide felt from the other point of view (Corboy uses this as a voiceover to death-camp footage, in effective black humor). There's also a few minutes from a Whole Life Expo, full of hard sell and cash registers. Professionally done and quite entertaining. (MG)

★★★★★

**NO SKIN OFF MY ASS** Bruce La Bruce ($29.95 from B.R.Bruce, PO Box 1110, Adelaide St. Stn., Toronto, Ontario, M5C 2K5, CANADA): Looking at times rather like a German expressionist piece, say by Murnau's less talented Gay cousin, this tale of seduction likewise has the leisurely and discursive plot development one associates with European cinema—but in this case shimmering with the titlllating heavy ironies of new-world queerdom, which the camera-work admirably assists. It's the tale of a hairdresser tragically and paradoxically fascinated by Skinheads. He begins a tentative introspective friendship with one he finds in the park. A subplot unfolds—the Skin has a Lesbo-politico-film-maker sister, & she and her ear-piercing buddies pierce his nipple to his indifference or very mild satisfaction. Throughout the film the music is magnificently apt—a punk version of Nancy Sinatra's "Boots" underscores the Skin's stompery, and when he finally succumbs to the blandishments—and handcuffs—of the hairdresser, Nico's *Deutscheland uber Alles* backs bondage choreography: Hitler's theme song drones away, interpreted by the blonde druggie's affectless voice as our Skin tongues boots & toilets. A facist salute with a limp-wrist coda completes the *detournement*. Some further sex, wit and plot follows, developing the character of the older sister, who helps her brother loosen up about being gay, skinhead though he be. The piece more or less concludes with the Hairdresser licking peanut butter from his Skin, blowing & getting (finally) blown by the now humanised jarhead, to the strains of cocktail-lounge music. Though a bit rough hewn this was humorous, erotic and full of political verve. It is questionable though whether the straight viewer would find this consistently interesting. (JR) [Two notes: First, for the ridiculous antics of the Canadian censors, see the Letters section in this FF. Second, at least one copy of this film has been seized at the border by US Customs, making it questionable whether most of you will have any luck getting copies. (MG)]

★★★★★

**SUCKDOG, "Lost Kittens"** ($20 & Age Statement from PO Box 1491, Dover, NH 03820): A video record of the "Lost Kittens" opera performed by Lisa Suckdog, Costes, and Debbie Puff. The tape is an intercutting of three separate performances, though that may be overstating things a bit—their "performance" is more of an on-stage melee than anything else, with the three of them running around, screaming and generally carrying on over a blasted recorded music accompaniment. One of the shows was recorded in a private apartment and is the raunchiest, featuring Lisa and Costes both getting naked, simulated sex, and a room-clearing coprophiliac scene. The plot doesn't make a whole lot of sense, but then, most operas don't. Definitely a unique piece of culture. (MG)

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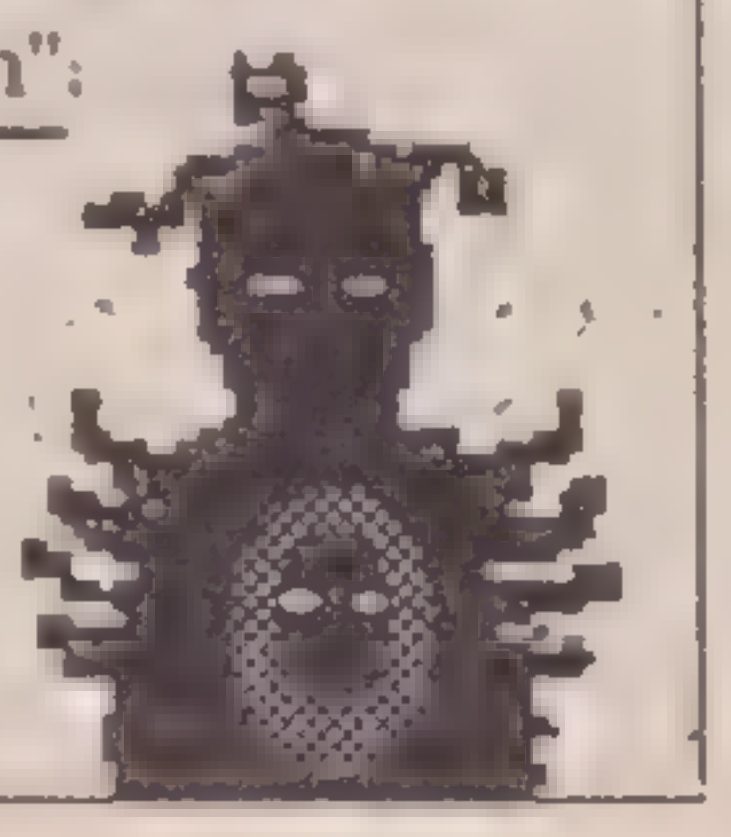

★★★★★

**THIN MINTS** ($14.99 from WM Records, PO Box 68, Garwood, NJ 07027): An extremely campy short movie showing off the talents (if that's the word I want) of the Whirling Dervishes. They call it a "melodramatic trash-fest", which seems to fit. The film follows the life and career of overweight crud-rock star Bobby Bulimia, with a flashback to the time he wallowed in sin with a cute young boy. Includes four shootings, a literal shit-eating grin, awkward lip-synching, self-abuse, and all the limp wrists you can shake a hankie at. A rock cliche run amok, and the sort of movie you can be horrified at yourself for enjoying. (MG)

★★★★★

**WILD WOMEN OF THAILAND** ($14.95 from New Age Marketing, 1230 Market St. #701, San Francisco, CA 94102): A video record of a vacation in a resort city (i.e., a place designed to part sailors from their money) in Thailand. It features women kickboxing (three matches, though apparently all the same boxers on different nights), wrestling nude from the waist up in olive oil, eating fire, folk dancing, and just hanging out. There are also a couple of particularly pathetic sequences where the videographer apparently paid women to come back to his hotel room and pretend to be kickboxers. Overall the video quality is good (often a bit orangish due to having been filmed by available light, which tended to be neon or flame), but one has to wonder a bit about the intent. Yeah, these women are all there because they've chosen to be in the "entertainment industry" and make good money at it, but one wonders what other choices they had. (MG)

## VIDEO NOTES

•**BRAINS ON FILM**, George Maranville's video outfit, has moved to PO Box 1337, lexington, KY 40590-1337.

•**No-Budget Production** (PO Box 23145, Seattle, WA 98102-0445) is currently screening videos for its 1991 cable season. 3/4" only.

•**Paper Tiger Television** (339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012) produces "videotapes which demystify, decode and analyze the myths of the mainstream media". You can get their 1990 catalog for $2.

•**Video Search of Miami** (PO Box 16-1917, Miami, FL 33116-1917) offers a video search service that can find almost any movie on your want list, usually for $25 plus shipping. Send an SASE for more info.

## NTSC CYBERBEAT

The Breakfast Special: 3 lb. Slab of Bacon and 3 Dozen Ex Large Eggs—$7.95. I coulda went for it. It woulda been food for a few days, but I've been on a veal and rice diet and somehow a little soy sauce seemed to be the trick. The Hollywood Meat Market is a great place to go when you've got extra bucks, not only for its name, but it's well stocked shelves about midway through the Italian Market. Actually, any place in the Italian Market is a great place to go with some green burning a hole in your pocket. Too many times I thought I was finished—only a ten spot between me and the poor house and I'd walk down to the market and pick up 5 pounds of chicken thighs, 3 pounds of string beans and a pound of rice for seven dollars and still have three left over for coffee and candy bars till payday. This week I've got money. Round roasts, shoulder roasts, pocket roasts, rump roasts, shank cross-cuts, spareribs, mutton, tongues, livers, bockwurst and bologna are all at my disposal but they can't change the reality of having to chaingang it a few days. There's a magazine column to write and I can't get started.

I peeled a banana and turned on the radio when I got home. A woman talked about Thai food, bat soup and fried snake and how as a country we Americans haven't gone through enough famines to become adept at resourcefulness with Old Mother Hubbard's Cupboard. Say in China or Africa they've experienced a few milleniums of distended stomachs and out of necessity have learned the fine art of eating insects. Eventually, these practices become absorbed into the cuisine of the country. She said America is a young nation, but this did nothing to further my article so I went to the bookcase. Maybe I could get an idea here. I'd just gone to Village Thrift, my favorite haberdashery to see if i could find any more 1948 National Geographics for 15 cents, the ones where they show black and white pictures of cannibals with bones sticking through their noses. No such luck this time but picked up some great books that really beefed up the library—all for under twenty bucks: **Fishing Tackle and Techniques, The Boys From Brazil, Rosemary's Baby, Saturday Night: A Backstage History of Saturday Night Live, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, Rod McKuen's Suspension Bridge, Outsiders, The Lyndon Johnson Humor in**

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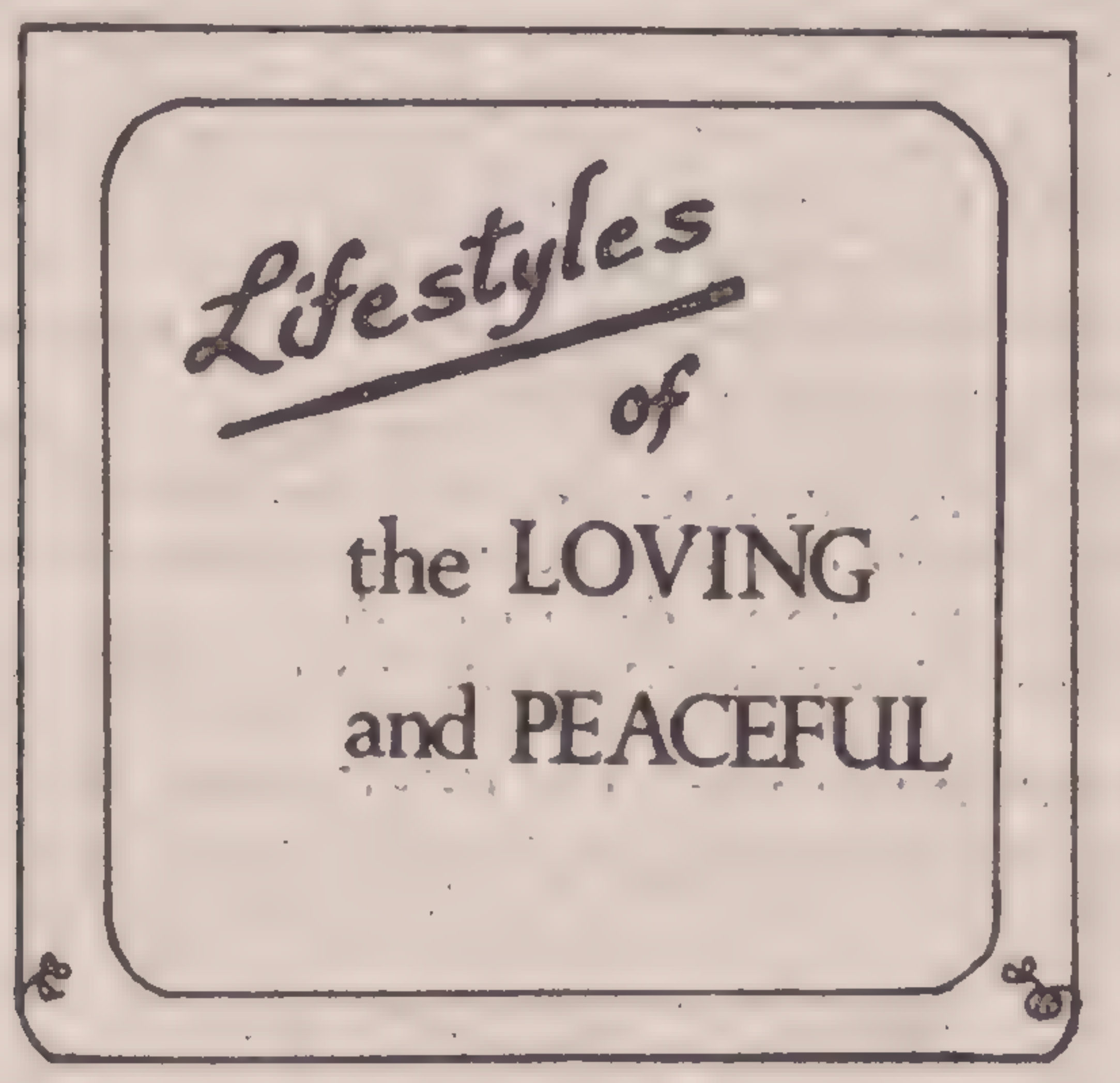

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### ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

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harback with photos, **Descent From Xanadu** by Harold Robbins, **Valley of the Dolls, Ball Four and The Complete Book of Surfing.** A lot of good reading, but nothing to write a column about.

There was the video somebody sent. I could write about that, but after spending a few weeks watching pretty close to forty episodes of the old Afred Hitchcock Presents, it was kinda hard getting excited about art students doing shorts on taking a shit. They should have used some corn for texture. It did have some sex, but I'm one of Hef's disciples so when it comes to porn I prefer to see something professional like "In and Out of Africa," or just take the subway over to Pin-Ups to see The Glamazon in person. It's got a pool table, too.

"I just read the screenplay the *The Terminator*...really amazed in the detail...was disappointed in the movie after reading it...they really chopped up the ending...I'd never read one...In the movie you remember at the end when the machine from Cybernetics crushed the Terminator?...In the screenplay they continue the story 30 years later and show how Cybernetics got the patent for the cyborgs during the termination process and produced an army of terminators to carry out corporate policy."

Somebody told me this last week which was great because as a reading exercise, I've come to enjoy the screenplay. They're just as deep as a short story, a good two hour read which can sometimes be meaningful when they haven't been hacked too much. If you don't live in Hollywood, they're not as accessible as a collection of poetry or a volume of essays so I tend to get a bit excited when I meet somebody that's read a few. As I stand here in front of a mountain of hardbacks from the Salvation Army, there are some things current, like the three scenarios I obtained on a loan basis from the playwright. One of the advantages of being America's guest is you come across little treasures most people don't have time for, be it 1948 National Geographics or screenplays. Just from loafing and discussing Carol Reed with Dan Leo I was able to read scripts by three very fine writers in David Rabe, David Mamet and Paul Schrader.

In the broadest sense, most people have read screenplays. A screenplay is a comic book without the picture formatted to fit on an 8 1/2 by 11 inch page, preferably 90 to 120 of them. With pictures a screenplay is now called a storyboard and that's exactly what a comic book is, a storyboard, but not structured to meet the needs of most agents and producers. Let me be more specific, there's a format for writing scripts that's been industry standard since Robert Towne introduced it with *Chinatown*: the thirty-sixty-thirty form. What this means is there have to be three different parts to your script with lengths of thirty minutes, sixty minutes and thirty minutes or roughly the same ratio if your story is longer or shorter. Between each sequence will be a plot point so if we break this down on an index card your drama will be structured by: introduction; plot point; execution of body; plot point; climax and conclusion.

Do all scripts follow this format? No. But most do because if you're not an established writer with more than qualified contacts, a lot of work will be filed in the dumpster when sending it to agents or producers if you don't adhere to the norm. Readers get paid to read scripts, that's all, eight hours a day and since they have so many to pile through they'll trash anything that isn't within the confines of whatever boundaries they're given. This is why I prefer to watch old movies although I enjoy many features released today. Older pictures emphasize dialogue and frequently have more than unique storylines. It's probably why I like reading comic books these days although I never was really a big comic man as a kid except for **MAD** magazine. They feel like good movies with good plots, but what about the scripts I have here in front of me?

I've always enjoyed David Mamet's work. His play *American Buffalo* and produced scripts *The Untouchables* and *The Verdict* were more than satisfactory viewing experiences. Recently he wrote and directed *House of Games* which was a good grifter picture. I read the screen adaptation of his play *Glengarry Glen Ross* and thought it was great. This is one of those "projects" that's been kicking around tinsel town for years with just about every major lead wanting a part, but no financial deal to tie the entire package together—probably because it's got something to say. Too bad, they should make movies like this even if there's a chance it might lose money. You never know. Look at Billy Wilder, almost everything he ever did they said would bomb and he very rarely missed.

The next script is *Investigation* by Paul Schrader who also wrote the screenplay for *Taxi Driver* and co-authored *Raging Bull*. *Investigation* reads like subversion at its best because it takes a lot of shots at a lot of things and is written by a man who is established and has a lot to lose for taking such stances. Although it's your basic high powered government attorney kills beautiful terrorist hooker story, it's done with contemporary realism and shows just how the rules have changed. This is what the story's about, the rules changing, how they bad guys win and how those in the law have no law. It's refreshing to see somebody write a story like this for the purpose of being made into a major motion picture. But like *Glengarry Glen Ross* it's still in script form, not like the last one I've got.

David Rabe is a fine writer. His plays *Hurly Burly* and *Streamers* were more than successful, with the latter being adapted for the screen sometimes in the late 70's or early 80's. But even with Brian DePalma in the director's seat, nothing could save *Casualties of War*. Sure, the story was structured in a professional manner, but it was flat, real flat and primarily consisted of a lot of "Base Camp," "Mama San," and "Fuck You." I rented the video for one of those train yourself at home courses in comparing the movie to the script and still couldn't get much out of it except what I didn't want to do. But we've all got to pay our rent. I'm sure David Rabe does, too. It's unfortunate that out of the three screenplays I have the thinnest skinned was produced. Perhaps it's a reflection of our times.

If you'd like to read a screenplay, they're out there. Most of the good ones are obtained from a friend of a friend of a friend of a friend that's worked out in Hollywood and get passed around and xeroxed like a chain letter. There's no set rule or rules in writing one except a page of script equals a minute of screentime and don't write in shots, that's the director's job. Syd Field has a screenwriting book that's a film school staple and although it's not a bible, is a good base to get you started writing one. But I'd recommend getting your grubs on the real thing.

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# High, Low and the Sub-Modern Model

### by Mark Bloch

The current show at the Museum of Modern Art here in New York is called "High/Low" and it attempts to show that from "just after World War I...direct borrowings from everyday ephemera gave artists a special way to confront the look and feel of modern society." Now, big deal, right? I mean, I think this is something that most of us with a little intelligence, and many without, take for granted. The idea that "High" and "Low" form a continuum is certainly nothing new to those of us that have lived through a decade or three in this century. But one of this exhibition's many flaws is that it does not see the relationship between "high" and "low" culture as a continuum at all. To the creators of this show, "low" art means advertising, caricature, comics, graffiti and billboards—pop culture in general; while "high" art means the stuff that gets shown in institutions like MOMA. I guess we're supposed to think that the world of "low" art didn't even exist—until now, of course—because they hadn't acknowledged it. But to me and everyone else I know that has seen this show, this exhibition is one big moot (exclamation) point. We can move from Soul Train to Sol LeWit without a lot of discussion. By even positing this theory, the Museum is fragmenting into two worlds that which is really only one. This show is a ridiculous contradiction in terms. It is unnecessary to separate the high from the low, and in fact, to do so is to play a "high" art game that has been going on for years and holds little interest for the rest of us.

Why, then, should I bother talking about it? Because not only does it set up a false boundary between the high and the low, but it also leaves "us" out of it altogether. This is significant. This exhibition does not address those of "us" who both accept and reject certain aspects of both "high" and "low" culture and in fact are doing something much more interesting than either. We live our lives without a division, we borrow freely from anything that is useful to us, be it "everyday ephemera" or the "innovative styles" of modern art. We reject both worlds in favor of a third world: the do-it-yourself, self-publishing activity that are part of a tradition which I call the Sub-Modern. This loose-knit Sub-Modern "community" is where the "high" art world goes fishing for new talent. But our little pond doesn't really need a name. In fact, like MOMA does with High/Low, to name it is to to ruin it, to categorize it, to destroy it, to assure it's co-optation by the Proud Mary machine I talked about in my last column (FF 37). Nevertheless, I'll refer to us as the Sub-Moderns now and I'll tell you why later.

But first, let's talk about just why this show is so ridiculous. Perhaps the reason that it limits itself to the worlds of painting and sculpture is an acknowledgment that this show, while considered "daring" by the New York art mafia, is in fact being presented at least 50 years too late. After all, media such as television, cinema, rock'n'roll and the rest weren't at the forefront of our consciousness as they are now. By not addressing these most fascinating aspects of pop culture, perhaps they are saying all this hoopla about High/Low isn't all that relevant due to the advent of today's "high tech" society in which all the world is only as far away as your remote control device. But I doubt it. Unable to drop the obsession with the plastic arts, they predictably position themselves just a little too "high" and skimp on the "low," taking themselves, as always, far too seriously. By 1936 Max Ernst had begun "to transform into dramas revealing my most secret desires what were previously only banal pages of advertising." Status quo today. Ernst and his dada contemporaries felt that mail order catologues and such "brought together...elements of figuration so distant from each other that the very absurdity of this assemblage provoked in me a hallucinatory succession of images." No reflection on you, Max, but what else is new? Marcel Duchamp refered to his "Green Box" as "a kind of Sears and Roebuck catalogue." To us this is just a useful metaphor but obviously the curators of this exhibition find this reference quaint enough to finally earn a place in the history of "high" art.

Every point in this show has been made before. Yeah great, R. Crumb's comics. Very innovative for them but to us another veritable institution. We've known and loved his work for years. Campbell's soup cans—terrific. The only thing that I didn't already know of were called "affichistes"—immense canvases of ripped up posters by some Italian and French artists of the 1960's. I liked them just as I enjoy the texture of poster-covered walls I see on the streets of the city. Thank you so much but one new "undiscovered" "movement" does not a revelation make. What MOMA calls "low" has been going on for centuries. The only thing new here is that a few scholars have chosen to take a half-assed look at it. Even the "logo" for the show is an embarrasing failure. Based on a cover design for the 1923 book "On Mayakovsky" by the Russian B. Arvatov, the High/Low "logo," currently seen all over New York, leaves behind the twisted elegance of the original's constructivist design and extracts, instead, a cheesey bastardization of it, poorly executed, devoid of life. Like this logo, the show was an unintended parody of itself. In the process, it reduces the world the rest of us live in to an "underbelly."

The show is littered with condescending remarks about the "low" lifestyle. I found these statements particularly ludicrous:1) "Dubuffet follows an openness to the lacerations of gutter life that is a particular part of French tradition from Baudelaire to Jean Genet and Céline." 2) a reference to James Joyce and Samuel Beckett's "reuse of low verbal comedy." 3) "A new generation of radical artists expressed their contempt for modernist art only by taking over its ironic jokes and turning them into memento mori." 4) In 1890, "social scientists examined (graffiti) to understand criminal types." Later, psychologists "came to regard such untutored markings as clues to the mind's basic creative processes" 5) R. Crumb's comics..."have also offered a vein of burlesque realism." 6) Phillip Guston "used images recalled from old comics—bare planks, cobbled, ungainly shoes and naked light bulbs—as the basis for a monumental art of tragic intensity."

The world of wooden floors and bare light bulbs that this show finds so entertaining is the way most of the world lives—at least the lucky ones that live indoors. While billions of the world's people spend their lives hovering near the poverty level, MOMA points out that Fernand Léger "saw utilitarian objects valued in a straightforward manner that he felt overturned prejudices about the hierarchy of beauty." Beautiful or not, this is our lives they're talking about, folks. "The forces of commercial and political advertising which threatened to turn the city scape into an unending collage" is our reality and we are forced to confront it every day, not just in the ivory rooms of a museum.

So if the Sub-Modern is the do-it-yourself tendency, it, like low culture, has been going on for some time now. I'm sure others of you out there are better qualified to talk about the history of self-publishing than I am. But history is full of Sub-Moderns. We all know for instance, that William Blake published his own books, Thomas Paine his pamphlets, even Gandhi was depicted in the Hollywood-esque film of his life as saying that a revolution cannot succeed without a printing press. From the cave paintings at Altamira to the "little magazines" of the 20's to the indie labels and zines of the 70's and 80's to today's "desktop" publishing activities, the Sub-Modern tendency to do it yourself is a way of talking back to the shackles of life in the "low" lane.

The self-publishing movement has gained so much steam in recent years that I see it now a completely separate but equal way of life. Our numbers are growing. **Factsheet Five** is proof of that. Sure we also participate in "high" and "low" culture; but repulsed by both,we in the self-publishing community have chosen a third way to express ourselves, to communicate our ideas. It is neither as banal and commercial as "low" art or as snobbish and pretensious as "high" art. It is a whole other world which borrows what it needs wherever it can find it. It is part of a tendency that a recent show at the MOMA should have or could have addressed but didn't—the idea of a middle ground between the two that uses the good qualities of both and the bad qualities of neither to forge a wellspring of activity as rich in it's diversity as it is in it's commitment to integrity.

Self-publishing has always been possible but the availability of new tools created by the consumer society have both liberated us and trapped us. You've got to play the game just to be able to buy the equipment to get out of the game. We are obligated to hold down our jobs, workin' for the man every night and day, to be able to photocopy a few pages or purchase a Macintosh or home porta-studio. Many of us have heard the touching high art tales of how Charles Ives sold insurance to support his habit of writing obscure music or how poet William Carlos Williams was a physician by day. Today we do the same. While we contemplate our relationship with the rising and falling tides of "culture," we need our photocopies, our samplers, our tape recorders, our desktop media. Our pencil and paper. With it we create risky works designed not necessarily to subvert but, rather, to simply express our own vision in a "civilized" world turned smelly from so much dead weight. In spite of our "ungainly shoes" and the "burlesque realism" of our situations, we are teeming with life and have every intention of communicating with other like-minded individuals in any way we can. Certainly not everyone can afford a Mac or a video camera so there are still many of us that don't have the means to create sophisticated sub-modern artifacts. But copy machines and tape recorders are all around us, and a large audience exists for home-made creations in any form. Those of us who do have the means to produce something (anything!) are doing it. **Factsheet Five** "reviews" it. But how do we create works of value? Only one aspect of the exhibition touched on that question.

If the MOMA show had a chance to redeem itself, it was in the performance series by yesterday's-downtown-weirdos-cum-today's-uptown-superstars like Eric Bogosian, Spaulding Gray, Ann Magnuson and Laurie Anderson, who presented works in the museum's basement auditorium. I would have liked to have seen all these performances. Their words in the little booklet that accompanied the series seemed honest, thought-provoking, from the heart. Like the painters and sculptors represented in the show, these performers know the Sub-Modern world first hand. They started out there and if they can get on the Gravy Train, and that is what they desire, more power to them. It's not their fault that inclusion in this exhibition has trivialized their work. I did manage to see Brian Eno's "lecture" at MOMA. Though he, too, talked too much about Jeff Koons, and little about music, thus contributing to the hype about High/Low in his own charming way, I found several of his ideas quite interesting.

Eno began his talk with a discussion of Duchamp's readymade "Fountain" (noted in the catalogue as a "flat back Bedfordshire urinal with lip plate #1570-KH.") Choosing not to acknowledge that the show featured a replica, Eno discussed "the deification of this particular piece of porcelain" and proceeded to nibble the hand of the institution that invited him to lecture."This is crap really, isn't it?" he said at one point. Good little bad boy, Brian.

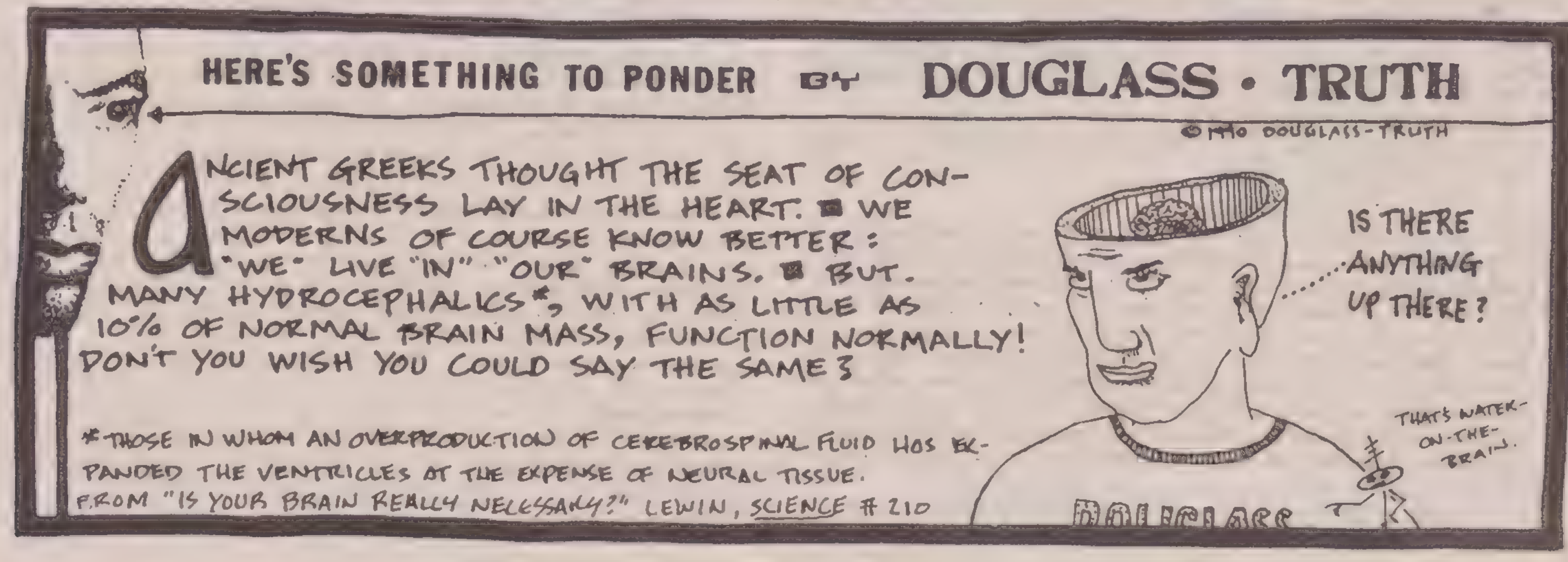
But Eno became the single thought-provoking feature of this show with his discussion of "irreducible value." He pointed out that no where does the MOMA catalogue for this show mention money. Indeed, a glaring ommision in a world where the prevailing standards of value have so much to do with aesthetic impact. Eno proposed the idea of an "aesthetic gold standard" saying that art, like "money, is a sophisticated game of trust." Pulling out a dollar bill he explained that money really has no value unless we agree it does. That, he said, is also the game of modern art.

For the creators of this exhibition, according to Eno, "Value is created by making distinctions between high and low." He said aesthetic value used to be a universal thing, seemingly ordained by God but "he's gone now—that's why artists get paid so much more today." Good line, Brian. All us Sub-Mods in the audience giggled and cooed in response to this clever iconoclasm. But eventually, Eno made his most important statement: "Exposure is the currency of pop art. Obscurity is the currency of high art."

If that is the case, if there is no universal standard of value, wouldn't a world of individuals exchanging home-made examples of their own value systems be the logical place for this all to go? I think so. But perhaps an international network of such people is the most we can hope for. I suppose the majority on this planet will always choose to consume "low;" a few others will choose "high" (some because they truly appreciate esoteric, outstanding accomplishments, others because it is the thing to do). But, as always, there remain a few stubborn types like us. Asked to choose between exposure and obscurity, we don't like the choice and new rules are the result. We don't buy the sex-crazed futility of mass exposure nor do we want to live the empty life of an undiscovered genius so we choose a middle road instead-the Sub-Modern. We exist—or subsist as the case may be—beneath the surface of the high/low see-saw. We can borrow from both worlds and, in the process, reject their respective limiting standards of value. MOMA has set "culture" up as an arm wrestling match between Michaelangelo and Michel J. Fox but we won't play. We won't chase the "high" art carrot that dangles in our faces. We want the so-called profundity of high art and the planks and bare lightbulbs of our real lives.

In an effort to raise a discussion about what motivates us, I spoke last time of Proud Mary, the media machine that eats all that attempts to disarm it. I don't want to see the eternal Sub-Modern network be a farm team for the Proud Mary machine. Our activities should not be a rehearsal for, or a microcosm of, the high or low worlds. It is an alternative. We each need to delineate our own value system, one that works for us. The only quality that the entire Network needs to embrace would be simply that we each have the right to our own value system. Anarchists and Republicans, Spiritualists and Materialists can learn to live together if the right of each person to their own opinion is held above all other values. Rather than judging people by some universal standard or manifesto, we must simply acknowledge the right of each of us to peruse the pages of a magazine like **Factsheet Five** and check off the entries that interest us. Nothing is politically correct except our own right to choose what we want to consume and produce. And that includes feeding off the Proud Mary (while she feeds off of us) for some revenue. I'm not blasting anyone for having to work for a corporation or to show and/or sell their work through a commercial institution. We all have to do it to some extent. But I have coined the term Sub-Modern as a way of grouping us together apart from the High/Low dichotomy. I see our network as a working model for international cooperation without an aesthetic or moral gold standard.

So if these activities don't need a name, why the collective term Sub-Modern? Because catchy names are something I personally value. I like the sound of it. I enjoy thinking up slogans. I call us Sub-Mods because I want to. I saw the MOMA show, I thought, I'm not "high" art, I'm not "low" art. I'm not "postmodern"—that's last year's "high" art hooey while the stuff I'm talking about has been going on from Day One. The tradition of publishing one's own work is a strong one and its influences have hit all points on the high-low continuum. People like us have always hunted and pecked our way through the rubble of society and created a few works we feel good about. If it is fashionable to the masses, it gets absorbed into the "low" world of pop culture, if it's fashionable to the haughty world of high society, we make our protestations, then join the club. I enjoy observing the way Proud Mary eats her young. I have a sick fascination for the way the integrity of the "Underground" is destroyed by the "Uberground-" be it high or low. So I coined this phrase because seeing myself and the rest of you as an Underground Railroad of the Heart fits my value system. If this term Sub-Modern ever gets used again, fine, if not, that's fine too. Who knows, maybe some jingle-writer will pay handsomely for it. Nevertheless, if you accept this name for any other reason than that it also fits your value system, you haven't understood a word I've said.


HERE'S SOMETHING TO PONDER BY DOUGLASS • TRUTH
©1990 DOUGLASS-TRUTH
ANCIENT GREEKS THOUGHT THE SEAT OF CONSCIOUSNESS LAY IN THE HEART. ■ WE MODERNS OF COURSE KNOW BETTER: "WE" LIVE "IN" "OUR" BRAINS. ■ BUT. MANY HYDROCEPHALICS*, WITH AS LITTLE AS 10% OF NORMAL BRAIN MASS, FUNCTION NORMALLY! DON'T YOU WISH YOU COULD SAY THE SAME?
IS THERE ANYTHING UP THERE?
*THOSE IN WHOM AN OVERPRODUCTION OF CEREBROSPINAL FLUID HAS EXPANDED THE VENTRICLES AT THE EXPENSE OF NEURAL TISSUE.
FROM "IS YOUR BRAIN REALLY NECESSARY?" LEWIN, SCIENCE # 210
THAT'S WATER-ON-THE-BRAIN.

CURMUDGEON
S. CUNNINGHAM
CORNER
BY GARRY DEYOUNG

### IF WE REALLY TRIED

If we *really* tried we could destroy the Earth. It can be done. Here's how:

Remove every tree in sight—as is the policy and practice in Iowa. Then grow corn or beans year after year after year without any winter cover crop. This will insure that there will be plenty of wind and water erosion and that the soil will be solidly compacted until it becomes hard as a brick.

The next thing to do is make certain that every farmer is removed from the land and in its place remain tractor drivers and "agri-businessmen" intent on making a fast buck from cash crops.

Destroy every hedgerow—wipe out every small town—and spray the entire state with weed killers. "Weeds" being defined as any plant which is neither corn nor beans.

Spread pesticides and herbicides and chemical fertilizers all over the land and in this manner make certain that, as is the case now in Minnesota and Iowa, that any water at the normal 20 to 40 foot level is unsafe to drink so that people cannot drill their own wells but now must have a well driller sink a well from 200 to 700 feet deep.

Once that is achieved, to make certain that no other plants can survive, do as they are doing in Iowa—develop beans and corn which have been genetically altered so that they are immune to the effects of herbicides and will thrive while all other vegetation dies.

If you have livestock do not let them graze on pastures but instead lock them up in feedlots where they stand in excrement up to their bellies where they can only be kept alive by being pumped full of antibiotics, antibiotics which ultimately end up in the fatty tissues in your body where they will resist any antibiotics you may need in time of illness.

Be certain to subsidize these tractor drivers so they can the more efficiently rape the soil and permit them, if they are big enough, to evade taxes through legal loopholes.

Be sure that the chemical companies are not taxed but tax small family farmers to the hilt and if they dare grow trees, or anything but corn and beans—run them out of the state.

When this is achieved all you need is a newspaper such as the Des Moines Register to ponder why the wonders of science have produced a Sahara desert here in the Midwest.

They used to say "As Maine goes, so goes the nation." That is wrong. It is more accurate to say that "When Iowa goes down the tube the rest of the nation will shortly follow."

## THE WARM FUZZY OF UTOPIAN POSSIBILITY VS. THE COLD PRICKLY OF MILITARIZED INDUSTRIALISM

by Kerry Wendell Thornley

[continued from FF38]

They may or may not have prevailed in the paleolithic and neolithic as Gary Snyder suspects and as Chang-Tzu may or may not have believed himself, since he was uninhibited about inventing fables to make points. And in any case, hints of such ideas appeared, usually as suppressed heretical movements, from time to time before Godwin. (Robert Anton Wilson once said the guilds of the medieval witches partook of anarcho-syndicalist principles of organization and Gary Snyder has kept careful track of all similar abortive groupings that are known.)

Only since Godwin, though, has the idea of organizing society without depending upon violent intimidation received *rational* examination. So as a force to be contended with, we aren't much yet. Weak movements have to rely extensively upon organizational secrecy and my circumstances oppose me utterly to organizational secrecy so there is occasional conflict between my long-range goals and the immediate goals of anarchists and the like, although I'm wholly in philosophical agreement with them.

Anyway, until or unless I myself am a member of an affinity group that needn't pretend to be anything else, I'm largely indifferent to anything but practical epistemology as applied to the social sciences,

★★★★★

In other words, until refuges against the stroke-scarcity economy are established, I am—in Bob Black's words—happiest when I'm ejaculating, dead drunk, or asleep—except that in my case it is stoned or tripping instead of drunk and not always so nice to be asleep either.

So the only thing I try very hard at is to find out how I got into this mess and what it is and has been, under no illusion that such activities will result in much immediate happiness.

Ejaculating and getting high will have to do for me—along with an occasional laugh—until or unless the rewards of affiliation with an affinity group are possible in addition.

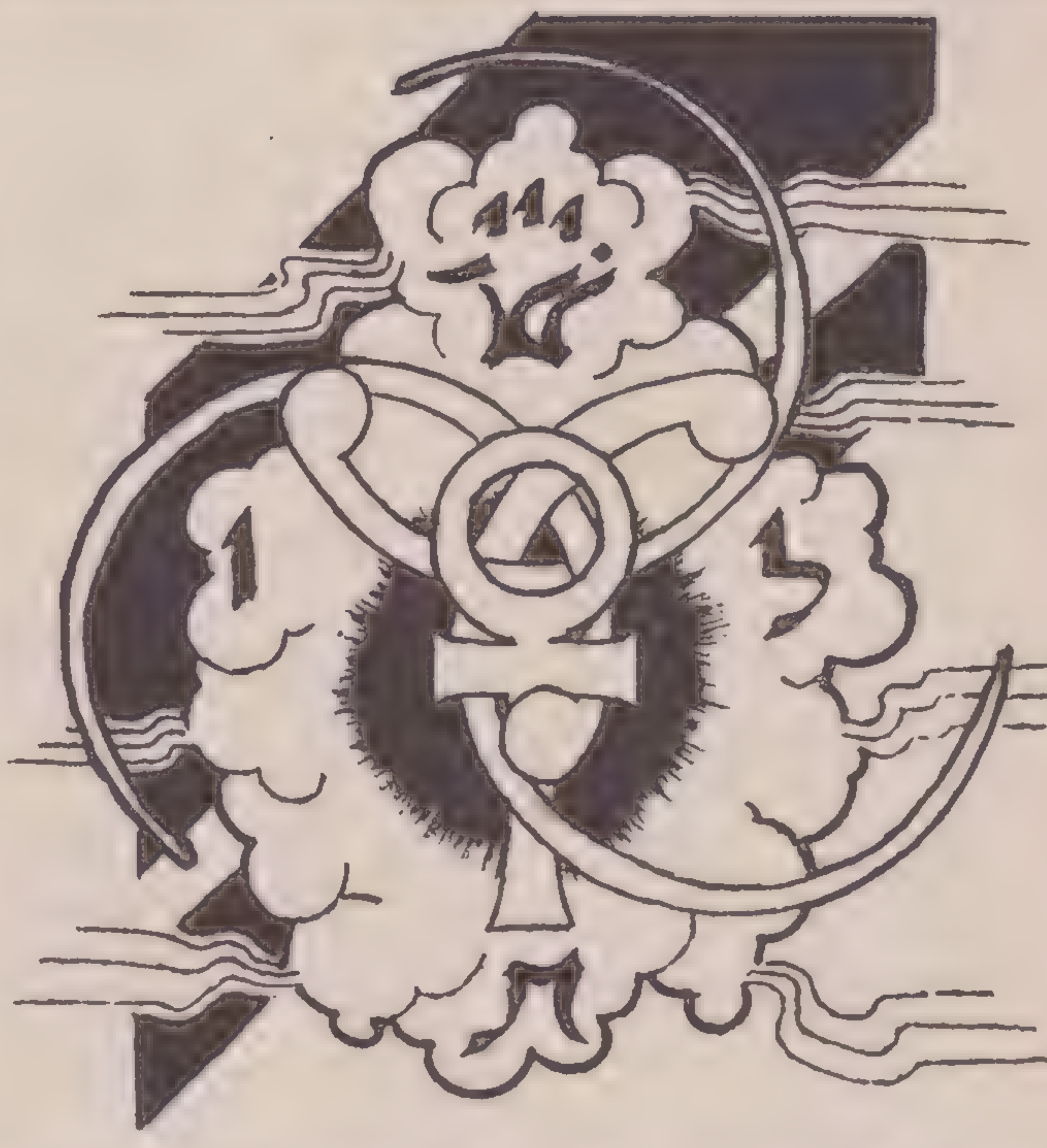
★★★★★

There seems to me to be a conspiracy to drive me out of Atlanta before the end of the summer. C______ wants me to stay away from her pad. T______ is thinking about going out of business. I', not going anywhere until **SPARE CHANGE** #8 is printed and in the mail. I'm about $60 spare away from that goal at this point, so it will be two weeks or a month before I even think about going anywhere else, at the soonest. If it takes longer, I'll stick around here longer. If I get a job I like that pays more than minimum wage, I may rent a room and stay here indefinitely. Otherwise, once **SPARE CHANGE** is in the mails, I'll head for Key West—and will probably remain in South and Southeast Florida until next Spring. So don't go to a lot of trouble.

★★★★★

It's already going to be too late to go to California this summer.

★★★★★



Lone nuts—muttering to themselves—exchange glances from opposite corners of the room. Me and another guy who looks like Sirhan Sirhan. History endeavoring not to repeat itself, up against a vast conspiracy.

★★★★★

Only the Dobbshead consoles me these days. Somebody's interpretation of this Rorshach known as reality resembles my own. Somewhere the twilight gleams insanely in the eyes of a cheerful maniac who will only destroy the world for the proper reasons and then, not unless necessary. (Write a rant for the SubGenius called "Bob"'s Basement Nuke.)

★★★★★

When I'm not being accused of supporting blowing the energy cover-up (they say maintaining the energy cover-up is linked to ecological behavior of the oil majors. Yeah, and depopulation of the 3rd world) above cultural autonomy, I'm accused of supporting monetary mutualism above it. Somebody thinks I'm Jerry Ford one minute and Jim Garrison the next. Fort's faction wants to let people starve until the energy question is resolved—that is: the keep the land issue chained to the energy issue. (He even spread the rumor that issue #3 meant issue #0). Garrison wants to expose the central bankers before liberating the rent strike from censorship. The only issue in economics I care about at this time is land. The only faction of the assassins I feel obliged to expose are the planners of the Vietnam war. The rest of all political and economic issues in the realm of thought, although I've got opinions about them, are only hobbies. This is the way things have been since the summer of 1982 and the way things are inclined to remain until racial genocide is exposed and sabotaged—by eliminating war criminals and landlords.

★★★★★

Anni Ackner's
STARS on ONE

## STARS ON ONE

Okay, enough already. I've had it with this sort of thing, I really have, and, while I can scarcely say "I'm not going to take it anymore"—since, in the first place, they always manage to sneak by with it when you aren't looking and, in the second, there's not much I can do to stop them in any event—I can pretty fairly say that "I'm mad as hell" and that, I assure you, is a most unattractive sight.

I mean, it isn't as though this is the first or the only time, is it? No, it's happened again and again and again, and up until now I've always been very nice and polite and reasonable about it, haven't I? I'll admit that I have mentioned it one or twice within these pages, but always just in the most casual way, and only in passing—I've never given it the twitting it so richly deserves, simply because I am, above all things, a lady—well, I *am*—and a lady does not lower herself to noticing the base tricks of a segment of the population not deserving of her esteem, nor does she routinely utter the sort of words that most immediately come to mind when repeatedly presented with a situation of this kind. But even a lady has limits—witness Lucretia Borgia—and I have unequivocally reached mine.

Oh, you know perfectly well what I'm talking about—don't pretend you don't; I'm not in the mood. It's that awful little game movie makes insist on playing with me—for Lord knows what devious reason—wherein they make two versions of a given film and show one to everyone else, and one to me. It's intolerable, that's what it is.

You remember how it happened with *Terms of Endearment*, when everyone else got to see a mature, adult drama about family relationships, and I was forced to sit, squirming with ennui, through a sentimental piece of drool that seemed to contain every cliche and calamity beloved of true confessions writers throughout the ages. Then there was *Steel Magnolias*, when the entire rest of the world—including the six people I saw it with—was treated to an affectionate portrayal of friendships among women while I shelled out $6.00 to see a sob story you couldn't get past *As the World Turns*, *Pretty Woman*,—a lighthearted Cinderella story versus a sickening example of patriarchal condescension—*Splash*—ditto—and, well, the list just goes on and on.

And I do realize that I wasted a considerable amount of ink awhile back here explaining how it is that sometimes otherwise intelligent movie critics—Grown Up and otherwise—all gather together to undeservedly praise a terrible movie, but what I am talking about now goes beyond the mitigating factors of critical relief at even a mediocre movie after a season of bad ones, misplaced attempts at sophistication, and audience misreadings of critical hyperbole. What I am talking about now goes all the way to—dare I call it?—conspiracy. What I am talking about now is *Jacob's Ladder*.

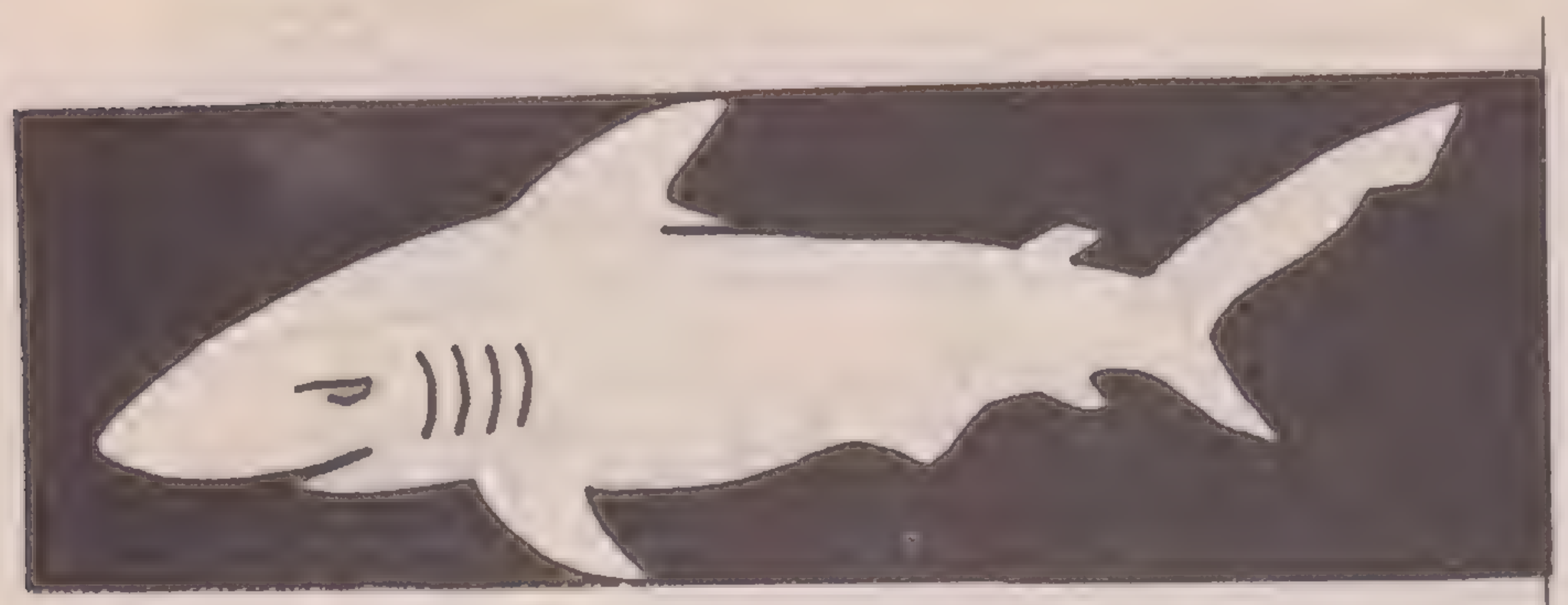
Now I do want it understood right from the beginning that I am not picking on *Jacob's Ladder* because it is necessarily any worse than any of the previously mentioned debacles, because it honestly isn't. In fact, objectively,—if such a word may be applied to this sort of column, an arguable assumption—it may even be marginally better, if only because we are not subjected to a constant bombardment of scenes designed to show how "sensitive" and "human" the characters are, and everyone who's marked for death has pretty bought the farm at the start of the movie. And it isn't even that I had higher hopes of *Jacob's Ladder*—I had fairly inflated expectations for *Terms of Endearment* and *Steel Magnolias* as well (anyone who goes into anything starring either Richard Gere or Daryl Hannah expecting anything other than pap deserves whatever it is he or she gets). No, I am going after *Jacob's Ladder* because it is with this film that the Powers That Be began fighting really dirty. Previous to this, they had confined themselves to showing lousy versions of their films solely to me, and every once in a while to one or another of the staff writers over at the *Village Voice*. I could live with that. I am, after all, a strong-willed, tough-minded, self-confident Woman of the Nineties—I can take hearing, over and over again, that my taste is suspect, my intelligence negligible, and my ability to discern quality from the lack thereof equal to that of whoever it is designs Cher's eveningwear (as for that crowd over at the *Village Voice*, I figure if they can work with Nat Hentoff, they can take care of themselves)—hell, that's practically part of my job description. But I saw *Jacob's Ladder* with three other people and all three of them were, evidently, *shown exactly the same version I was*, the bad version, the version Siskel and Ebert weren't made to see, and that's where I draw the line. Mess around with whatever pleasure it might be possible for me to derive from films all you like, but leave my friends out of it. This means war!

And speaking of war, both versions of *Jacob's Ladder* have a lot to do with it. Jacob, you see, is a Viet Nam veteran—by the way, I don't know what he's meant to be like in the good version, but in the one they showed me, he's played by Tim Robbins, who in the first place is about 23 (though you can let that one go by is you assume, as I did, judging from the music and the clothing, that the film is set in the late seventies), and in the second place is not only white, but whose character is meant to have a doctorate of some sort, and a wife, *and* three young children, yet he's drafted into the Viet Nam era as a *grunt*, which, as any real Viet Nam vet can tell you, is the sort of situation that arose every day. Yeah, sure—and all of a sudden one day he either becomes paranoid shizophrenic or else extraordinarily bad and crazy things start happening to him, like people trying to run him over in cars, and trains full of zombies shooting past him as he stands on subway tracks. Okay, so far, so good (or bad, depending on your point of view), and probably both versions of the film were more or less the same up until this point (though I still have trouble believing that the good version had a guy with a Ph.D and a wife and...oh well), but then the Switcheroo starts. From everything I've been able to gather from people who had the fortune to catch the good version, *Jacob's Ladder* from this moment on is a taut, suspenseful adult drama, unfailingly gripping as the audience follows Jacob in his desperate quest to unravel the mystery of what is happening to him and, if this weren't enough, there's also a mature and satisfying love story, some dynamite special effects, and a shocker of an ending that'll knock you socks off.

I wonder if these people realize just how very, very lucky they really are? I think they must—I mean, who wouldn't consider him or herself fortunate to see a movie such as that? Why, those of us who labour in the fields of visual arts critiquing would give our eye teeth—or at least a couple of inches off our carefully nurtured hair styles—if we could see a film as fine as that one even once a year or so. So you can imagine my despair and disgust when the *Jacob's Ladder* I got to see—after the initial twenty minutes—turned out to be sloppy, over-long, and draggy in spots, full of gratuitous sub-plots (including a love story that went absolutely nowhere at all, and seemed to be included only as a convoluted way to get Robbins naked, overloaded with special effects that looked like out-takes from a bad day at Industrial Light and Magic, and with an ending I guessed about halfway through—not to mention a closing shot that I won't give away just in case there are those among you who want to take your chances on catching the good version, but which I will go so far as to say has already been used once in a hit movie this year. Altogether, the thing was a hash—a big budget, melodramatic, unnecessarily complicated, cynical hash—and if I thought that this was what they were showing to the general public, I'd strongly urge you to spend your money on just about anything else instead, even a couple shares in a S and L. Since, however, I know that what I saw was reserved only for me and a few "privileged" others, all I can really do is ponder.

Why, I wonder, do they keep doing this to me? Why play this game? Why, at base, do they want to take all the fun out of going to the movies for me, and hold me up to the ridicule of friends and relatives alike? And who exactly are "they" anyway? Oh, they call themselves filmakers, all right—producers and directors and film editors and the heads of studios and even Adrian Lyne—but who are they *really*? Am I simply a paranoid shizophrenic, or is there some sort of vast conspiracy afoot for Lord knows what nefarious reason, a conspiracy that is now out to get my friends as well as me? Could it have something to do with all the anti-war marches I attended during my high school and college days? Those anti-nuclear demonstrations of more recent years? My pro-chice work? The fact that an ex-boyfriend of mine once threw a pie at Gerald Ford (I swear it's true—I have a clipping)? I don't want to think that I'm about to be forced into a desperate quest to unravel the mystery of what's happening to me—if nothing else, I haven't even made my be yet today—but it does make you stop and think.

And if a train full of zombies pulls through the living room, I'm outta here.



## The Fishing Hole

by Joe "kingfish" Lane

Advertising is the medium through which people, organizations and businesses get infromation about themselves out to a wide range of the people who read the publications the advertisements appear in.

Notice the phrase "wide range of people." When discussing the small press or alternative press, the idea of a large audience is usually out of most of our reaches. In Mike Gunderloy's case I am sure that he has an audience, over the years, of maybe 100,000. I know that I have personally turned on about twenty people over the years to **Factsheet Five** who have actually read it. And I can just see all these zines editors bragging to their friends and showing them the reviews of their zines in **Factsheet Five**.

But most zines are read by maybe four readers per copy. If someone buys a copy of **Toad Hiway** or **The Match!** then usually they take it home, read it, a few family members look at it and eventually it may be given to a friend to read.

For a zine with a circulation of 300 copies, an audience of 1,200 isn't going to interest an advertiser unless the zine fills a certain need in a market. Such an example would be the **Rag** in Peoria, IL. It was the only freebie underground newspaper in the area. It's circulation was 1,500 but due to its ability to announce major happenings ignored by the daily paper, it was able to hustle enough ads to pay it's print bill according to editor Tim Beeney.

Filling up column space with ads, no matter how popular a publication, is hard work. Those of you who expect to have concert promoters beating down your door to buy a full page ad for the next 2 Live Crew appearance are in for a surprise. Even the daily newspapers have to hire a full time staff just to sell ads and have to pay them well because advertising is not easy. A sales rep can spend weeks and months on the same advertisers before they are willing to commit themselves to a small ad.

So if it's so hard to sell for a mainstream publication, then you may ask what chances you have to score enough business to pay the next print bill. Actual chances are good. Why?

Mainstream papers and magazines have huge overhead that they are financially responsible for. Printing bills are the biggest cost for the small press and the smallest cost for the big press.

So a zine publisher can charge less for ads in comparison to the daily papers because there are usually no full time employees, no health benefits to pay for, no rent for office space or a mortgage. Just a few bucks to each contributor and the gas money for the delivery mobile and a print bill.

Plus there are more businesses that can afford to buy a small ad in a small zine than buy a similar size ad in a mainstream newspaper. (The reason I use newspapers for example is that they are the closest thing to a local advertising medium that a zine can relate to.)

So what should a zine charge for advertising space? Obviously not as much as the daily newspaper in town, but enough to pay the printing costs with even the smallest amount of advertising.

Publications charge either by units of column inches or by percentage of a full page. If a zine is a newsprint tabloid with 5 columns on each page and has a print area of 13 inches then there will be 65 column inches of advertising space to sell for each page. A zine printed in digest or magazine form usually will sell eighth, quarter, half and full page ads.

In determining sale price for advertising space, an ideal rate can be determined by how much your competition is charging and by how much space one is willing to devote to ads to break even on printing costs.

Example. An eight page tabloid, 1,000 copies, costs 125 dollars to print. Using the 65 column inches per page and charging one dollar per column inch, it will take two pages of ads to pay for the print bill. That means 25 percent of the zine will be composed of ads. This is about half of what mainstream papers have. Mainstream publications run 50-75 percent advertising.

If the editor does not think that he can get that many ads, then he might charge two dollars a column inch and have more space to devote to stories, et cetera.

The competition factor comes in if there is another zine or a local mainstream publication that is charging three dollars a column inch and has a circulation of 5,000 copies. This means the advertiser is getting five times the possible readers for only 50 percent more cost. So before trying to sell ads, check out the local competition and try to make a decision on a reasonable rate. There is an easy way of finding out local advertisers costs. Ask your competition for their advertising rate card. My old ad salesman walked into the daily paper, said he was a college student at a fraternity and was wanting the ad rates. They gave him everything under the sun they we needed. Just have friends that are business people get the stuff if you can bull 'em over.

Advertising rates are dependent on the number of times a customer is willing to purchase an ad. A certain percentage taken off cost of advertising for the running of the same ad in the next five issues or so is common (five to ten percent).

Size of advertising space is also a factor. A full page ad usually costs a business less than two half page ads. This is an incentive to for the advertiser to buy more space.

Before sending anyone out to sell ads, a decision must be made on what to pay the person and what goals are to be met. If the work is volunteer, the pay may be nothing but I advise against this. The most important person on most small publications is the salesman because without him an editor loses lots of money or goes out of business. A standard seems to be so much per issue up to a required amount of ads, plus 15 percent commission of the revenues over that requirements. Other times the salesman works strictly upon commissions alone. An example is paying $200 per issue for a salesman $1,600 in sales, and 15 percent of the money from $1,600 up.

After a decision is made on who is going to sell, the next decision must be made on the presentation. The presentation is a standard sales pitch that must include the following: the name of the zine, the circulation and frequency of publication, the intended audience and manner of reaching that audience (free or method of sales), a description of editorial content and the cost of the advertising and manner of payment.

Most of this can be verbal but many find it useful to put together an advertising brochure.

The ad representative also will need copies of the zine to give out to prospective advertisers, and a notebook and/or drawing pad to sketch out ad ideas for the business.

After a sale is made it is a courtesy to show the ad to the advertiser once before it runs in case of a needed change. Once a change is requested, the ad representative can fix the ad for publication but not for showing to the advertiser. This is because every once in a great while a business will want to change it every time, setting up a possible delay in printing and irritation from the editor. If such an advertiser is found, and cannot accept the one time showing rule, dump 'em. It's not worth the hassle.

The same is said for the advertiser that requests an ad on a certain page. Unless the business is willing to take out a full page ad for more than one issue it is not worth granting such a request. Then other advertisers may make the same request and not everyone can have an ad on page 8. If the business can't have his way every time, it won't stay long with the zine. Plus it can create havoc in layout.

In collecting ad revenue, it is in my opinion that the editor or publisher is better off going to businesses the day after a zine is distribtued to collect. A zine can also have a rule that all sales be turned in or mailed in one week after display of advertisement in the zine.

So far I have been discussing display advertisements. There are two others that need to be discussed. Advertorials and classified.

Advertorials are those ads that appear as stories, a few words or paragraphs about the business, with the address and hours and at the very bottom the tag line "a paid advertisement."

Some publications devote entire sections of the publication to these types of ads. One type of section is the entertainment section with reviews of upcoming events at places whose ads surround the reviews. Same with dining guides. It's watered down crap, but it gets needed cash flowing in.

Classifieds, on the other hand, can be the most interesting type of ads to appear in a zine. Personals, meetings and cheap stuff for sale tend to attract most people's attention. Selling 25-30 of these at five dollars apiece will maybe fill a half page and hencefore are more valuable than the same amount of space in display ads.

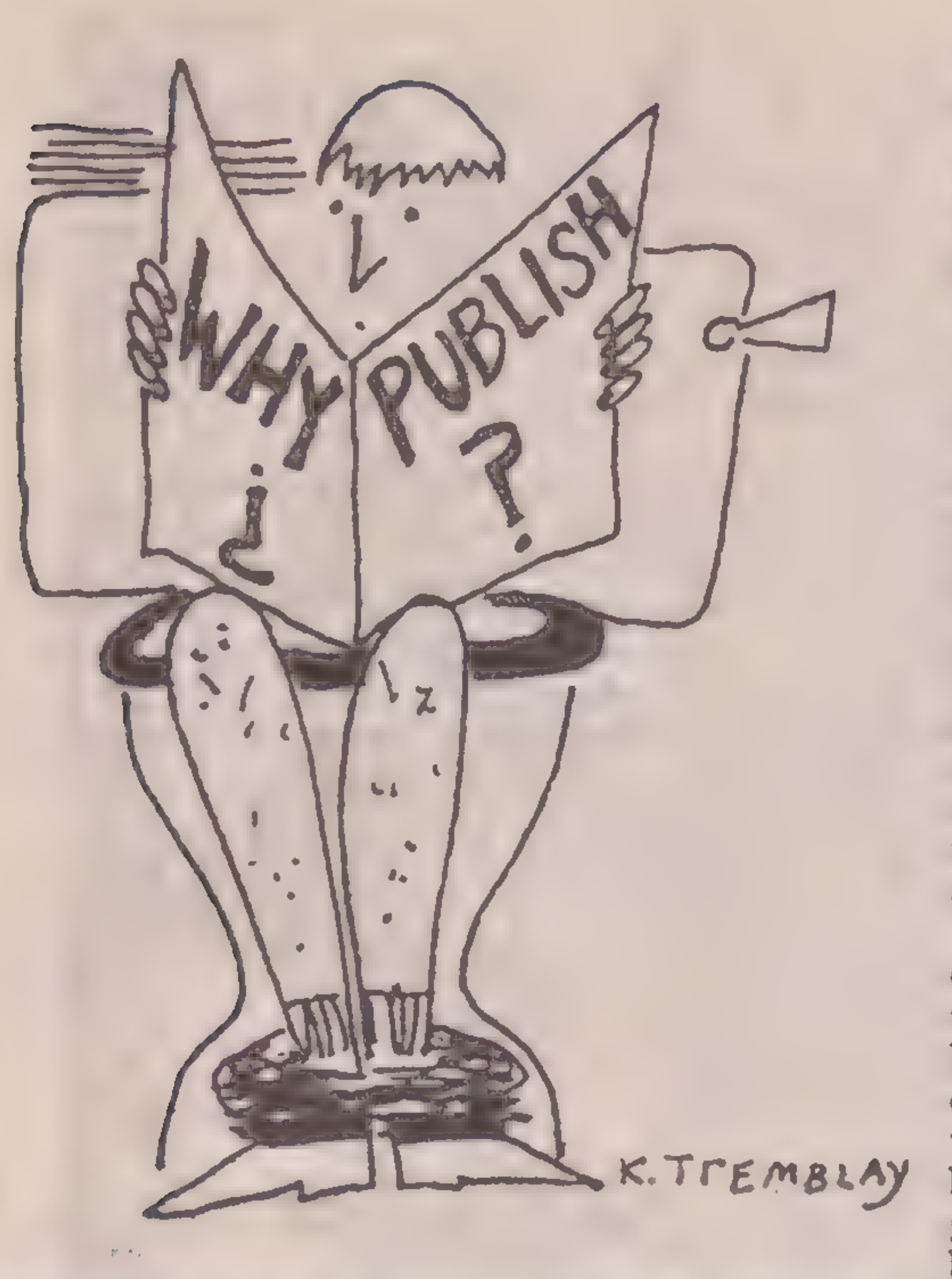
Sometimes a zine can trade advertisements for much needed resources such as printing, typesetting or unrelated items. If a record store is an advertiser, you might trade the ads for an equal amount of CDs. But I wouldn't allow too much of this. Otherwise all the advertisers may want to get rid of stuff they can't sell and you are still losing money.

With this, I end the section on advertising. Next issue will be devoted to staff management and editorial control. I admit that I am very much a believer in editors-in-chief or small editorial boards of three or so. So if your publication is staff- owned or run by all members equally, write how you work it out to me to pass on to the readers as I haven't seen a publication yet that works well under these circumstances.

**Notes from the Fishing Hole: To Crad Kilodney...I DID NOT simply send Coutts Library Services with a letter saying "send me a cheque for $6.50." I made an invoice, noting the correct address and the invoice number they supplied and followed "standard business procedures." They are the idiots in this case. In the second copy I sent, I even included their invoice, still noting address changes et ectera. If you really want to hear griping I suggest you talk to Garry De Young about bad reviews.

***As always editors are asked to send their ideas and hints to: Joe Lane c/o The Fishing Hole P.O. Box 4083, Terre Haute, IN 47804- 4083. Please use the name Fishing Hole as I now run HAPA and Mirkwood newsletters out of the same box.

***Copyright 1990 by Joe Lane



Robert W. Howington, **EXPERIMENT IN WORDS:**

I started publishing **EXPERIMENT IN WORDS,** formerly **A BUG IN MY FRIES MAGAZINE,** in January of 1990 because of the wonderful power that an editor/publisher commands. I'm the man, the bottom line. Me. Only me. The prose stops here. I can put into the zine what I want to put in it. The final decision, the one and only decision actually, on what goes inside its pages is mine, and only mine.

After sending a copy of my guidelines to a writer, she wrote back saying that I had come across as a "tyrant." What joy, I basked in glutinous glory all day, it was to be described that most appropriate way. I consider myself a strongman, a renegade, a literary madman, consumed with maniacal thoughts that drive me to print others' words so that the whole, big world can see them, read them, intuit them, touch the,, and come away knowing something they didn't know before taking a giant leap and exploring an issue of **EXPERIMENT IN WORDS.**

I'm no stuffed-shirt, haughty, boring literary cad. I don't have a shittin' degree. I work full-time as a government clerk, doing a god-awful paperwork, meaningless job, day after insane day. Yet, writers, from all over the world, writers with exquisite resumes, degrees, masters degrees, Ph.d's, send me their work for they know me only as the editor/publisher of a zine. I wallow in this. I live two lives. I have the best of one world.

I challenge these writers to send me their best work. I instruct them not to send me their throwaways, or I'll throw it right back in their faces. I've got a terrific "Fuck You, I'm The Editor/Publisher" attitude. Don't tread on me, or my zine, or you'll pay with a rejection slip.

Remember, I'm The Man. Me. I. Don't forget it. Don't forget why I publish **EXPERIMENT IN WORDS:** to benefit writers by publishing their work, their sweat, in a new, energetic magazine, and to challenge readers with unusual, original prose that will move them emotionally and intellectually.

★★★★★

Eric Rudnick, **AFTERSHOCK FANZINE:**

There are several reasons that I originally started writing. The first, and definitely most important was self-expression, I needed an outlet to let other people know what I think. I'm the kind of person who loves filling out surveys just to express my views. The other important reasons are communication, mail, and of course, my own two interests, comics and music. Communication is important because I don't know too many people around here interested in the same things I am, and of course writing to a 'zine editor is much cooler than talking to someone who occasionally reads a fanzine. My obsession with mail however has been going on for a while. I have several different pen pals from all over, and continue to trade things like posters and fanzines to mind-functioning beings everywhere.

Music and comics have always been my two real hobbies. It makes me sick that "professional artists" are getting paid hundreds of dollars to publish stuff for the big two (Marvel & DC) and some dude is making $15 for writing an entire underground comic. And what about the fact the Janet Jackson is making thousands of dollars more than the Dead Kennedys ever did!!! Makes you sick huh??? Then screw the overrated sellout stars and listen to independent bands, Read small press 'zines and think for yourself. That's why I publish. To change the world. It may not work but it sure is fun trying.

★★★★★

Vern Bodkin, **CROSSCURRENTS:**

For a very long time I've had a lot of stuff I wanted to say. It took a subscription to **FACTSHEET FIVE** before I finally had the impetus to finally do it.

I started to publish because I felt that I had stuff that people could benefit from hearing. I write as a member of the left and as a sexual minority member and I feel compelled to exchange views and information with others of like mind. That is plenty of reason to publish in itself.

That is not the only reason, however. Since I've started publishing steadily the perks have been enormous.

Purely as a result of name recognition I've received press passes to various events. In exchange for the stuff I publish I get trade stuff from all over the country..

Because I am writing, setting and meeting deadlines, dealing with temperamental writers, and doing all that other publishing stuff, I am gaining experience which is invaluable.

Finally, I have begun to write for some more mainstream parts of the press and they're *buying*. My pathetic prose was never anywhere near salable before it started to become honed by self publishing (many people say it isn't salable yet...oh well). A local paper has even begun picking up my movie reviews.

---

# DEUS EX MACHINA

by Misha

art by Freddie Baer

A piece of the earth, airbound, slices the night sky like green light on a blade. The Lose Pleiad hurtles you an occlusion of wisdom, cries out to you. One emerald light in the darkness, a heavenly stone striking the sacred Golem, a meteor offers her explanation.

Here, it is: Mars' cinders blow on your bare thighs. The movement of moons from behind your eyes, slicing and silver. Saturn's rings catch in your throat. The scars on your palms explode with tiny shards of light. Black holes pierce your brain, your thoughts drift on strips of Velthuy's bleeding harps. Your heart is impaled on a silver spindle. The sky is grinding down into your flesh, a whetting stone to sharpen your senses. The hollow bones beneath your scales shatter, shard skittering across the Horsehead Nebula.

To accept: Tangle your fingers on the blades of Pegasus mane. Prick yourself with his hairs of crystal. The cold gallops over your galactic skin, into your blue bones. Your cloak of space is a veil of quills. Spur the terrible steed through the dark and the void into the blaze of white light. Gone is the smell of dead water, thoughts mournful or morbid, death's unraveling cord. No more mute gods, nor demons' fangs, nor animal loneliness, nor bristling fear, nor love's soft pressure, nor vengeful desire. Welcome to a night of searing daggers, of joyful exile and shimmering bells. Stones take flight like flaming birds. Smoking on your lips is the taste of honey, speak the fire on your tongue.

Comet, the terrible deus ex machina, is your only hope. A personal rapture for each pensive believer, one foot in the silver stirrup of the Dipper, the other cooling on the faithless earth.

"LISTEN YOU FUCKERS, YOU SCREWHEADS,
HERE IS A MAN WHO COULD NOT TAKE IT ANYMORE.
A MAN WHO STOOD UP AGAINST THE SCUM,
THE CUNTS, THE DOGS, THE WEAKNESS,
THE FILTH, THE SHIT.
HERE IS A MAN WHO STOOD UP..."

# LOCK DOWN

FIRST BOOK BY

## *THIRD RAIL GUITARIST*
## STEVE MERRITT

A SELECTED REVIEW OF LOCK DOWN:

**"OKAY, I KNOW WHO THIS GUY IS. HE'S A TOTAL JOKE, A REAL SQUARE. HE NEVER GOES TO CLUBS OR BARS, HIS MUSIC IS NOTHING BUT NOISE AND HE'S BORING. I PRACTICALLY HAD TO FORCE MYSELF ON HIM. HE SAID WE WOULD RATHER STAY HOME AND DO 'WORK' THAN GO OUT WITH ME. THIS GUY HAS SOME SERIOUS PROBLEMS.**

-ELIZABETH DO-LITTLE
*ABSOLUTELY NO ONE*

***$5.00 POST-PAID FROM:***
**CAFFEINE MACHINE PUBLICATIONS**

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14 Short Stories by David McCord

**'I have grown to rather appreciate McCord's writing. He explores some of the darker parts of life--fear, despair, resistance, suicide, drugs--and tries to make them understandable"**
**-Mike Gunderloy**

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THIRD RAIL
END IT

**9 SONG DESTROYING ROCK LP**
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**A FIELD OF RUINS: 5.00**
**MAKE ME: 4.00**

## CASSETTE:

**AND THEN YOU WOKE UP: 5.00**
**LIVE SPEAKING TAPE FROM 1989-90.**
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ALL OTHERS: PLEASE ADD 3.00 PER ITEM FOR THE POSTAGE
USA FUNDS ONLY. THANKS.

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN.
THE DESTRUCTION IS EVERYWHERE.

IT'S A BLACK COFFEE THING, YOU'VE GOT TO UNDERSTAND.

FACT SHEET FIVE
Audio Reviews
JOEL BRICK ©90

## ABOUT MUSIC ACCESS

**FACTSHEET FIVE** is working closely with **MUSIC ACCESS**, the new music preview service being run by Bar Biszick down in New York City. By dialing 1-900-454-3277, you can hear selections from hundreds of new music releases, in categories including rock, jazz, folk, childrens', and spoken word. The call costs 95¢ per minute, part of which goes to fund artist and community resources.

**MUSIC ACCESS** is meant to be a networking tool, not an audio jukebox. Each piece on the system has a voice mailbox attached, so you can leave comments and network with the artists. You can easily move from piece to piece by entering their four-digit music access numbers, which are listed in their directory newsletter along with instructions on using the system more efficiently ($12/yr from Music Access, PO Box 179022, Times Plaza Sta., Brooklyn, NY 11217).

By having your music reviewed in FF, you're entitled to a free month of having it available on **MUSIC ACCESS**. Right now we're doing this with a limited number of selections, because we have to arrange for the same record or tape to be reviewed here and then sent to New York. To *guarantee* your music a place on **MUSIC ACCESS**, you need to send a second copy to them! There's a submission form elsewhere on this page, which should accompany your release. Please note that only new, commercially available recordings properly protected by copyright are eligible.

I've played around with the system and I think it's pretty neat. We hope more of you musicians get in touch directly and use it as a networking tool. Oh, and one more incentive—records advertised in **FACTSHEET FIVE** will get extended time on **MUSIC ACCESS** for free!

Reviews in this issue of **FF** followed by a number in brackets (like [MA#1001]) will be available on **MUSIC ACCESS** during the month of January. The first **FACTSHEET FIVE** compilation tape, incidentally, will be available for preview during that time as [MA#1051]. And you can leave voice mail for FF on the system too, in mailbox [MA#9005]. Hope to hear from you there!

★★★★★

Audio reviews are by Karin Falcone (KF), Cari Goldberg (CG), Mike Gunderloy (MG), Kurt Lemming (KL), William Meckley (WM), Jay Mentes (JCM), Jacob Rabinowitz (JR), Carol Schutzbank (CS), Kyle Silfer (KS), Robin Somerills (RS), Dina Williams (DW), and Phil Zampino (PMZ).

**2 BLACK 2 STRONG**, "Burn Baby Burn" (In-Effect, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): An extremely blunt and strong rap album that's bound to offend a lot of people in its belligerent defense of free speech. Not only do these guys stand up for the right to burn the flag, they want to wipe their asses with it, daring anyone to try and deprive them of First Amendment rights. Musically it is tight and almost minimal (indeed, a capella versions are provided at the end), hard around the edges as befits a determination to fight. (T/MG)

**THE 27TH CITY**, demo tape (c/o Joseph Zake, 1804 W. Division, Chicago, IL 60622): Somewhat gothic post-punk music with a decidedly downbeat feel to it and a lushness that put me in the mind of the newer wave of dark pop bands from England. Though they could still use a bit of polish, this four-piece has definitely staked out a musical territory of their own, and their playing is sure and interesting. Should go well with the black-clothing set. (T/MG)

**THE 27 VARIOUS**, "Approximately" (Clean Records, 2541 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404): Tasty neo-psychedelia with a warped view of the world. Though the band spends much of their time on this album in 1960's guitar-ballad territory, they throw in a couple of harder numbers to show they haven't lost their edge. Their morbid trademark lyrics continue on cuts like "Like the Poison" and "Out of Lungs". Not recommended for the habitual substance abuser. (LP/MG)

**3 MEN PISSING IN THE RAIN**, "Here Comes the Average Life" ($10 *CASH* from Claus Korn, Alte Burgstr. 1, D-8830 Treuchtlinger, WEST GERMANY): Guitar-and-harmony heavy goodies, strong works that blend together a pop sense of lyrics and a tightness seldom seen in any song with sentiment. "Something Strange" is a lovely composition, full of changes and quirks and even lyrics that seem to mean a thing or two. 16 songs in all, with lyrics in English. (LP/MG)

**60 CYCLE HUM**, "Connection" ($5 from Dancing Bear Audio Research, PO Box 807, Warwick, NY 10990-0807): A full 90 minutes of strange synthosonic improvisations, twirling from classical sounds to modern space rock and covering many points in between. For the most part they stick close to hypnotic, spacy, tunnels through the brain sort of music. Noises swoop and repeat, the doors of perception open, and strange things tumble out. (T/MG)

**611**, "Six Eleven" ($4 from Shangri-La Records, 1916 Madison Ave., Memphis, TN 38104): First release from the folks who run **KREATURE COMFORTS** zine, and it's a good one. The band is heavily into percussion, and in particular on the crazy "How Amalgamational Angie Assists the Betrayal of Betrothed Bill" they put it to good use, along with relaxed guitar work

## MUSIC ACCESS PROMO SUBMISSION FORM

Artist: ____________ Submitted By: ____________

Title: ____________ Relationship to Artist: ____________

Record Co./Distributor: ____________

Mailorder Address: ____________

____________

Consumer send check payable to: ____________

Describe briefly the content (example: rock, hardcore, political):

____________

LP: ________ minutes $ ________

Cassette :________minutes $________

CD :________minutes $________

Other: ________minutes $________

Our state sales tax is ____________%

Shipping and handling cost/policy: ____________

____________

and vocal harmonies. Crazy lyrics make up for the fact that the songs seem to run a bit longer than one would expect. (EP/MG)

**JAY AARON**, "Inside Out" (Warner Bros.Records, 3300 Warner Blvd., Burbank, CA, 91510) Pop rock revolving around the same old adage of love and/or no love. A five member male band and of course they are all long haired beauties. Therefore, I predict that this "thunderous and lyrical, aggressive and reflective" group will see a high school dance or two. (T/RS)

**AATACHE**, "Figures Whispering" (LPS Records, Box 110691, Hialeah, FL, 33011-0691) The most obvious qualities of this dance pop are the straight beats and cymbal loops leading synthetic songs in the Depeche mode. Their message is straight forward: love from an interior perspective of yearning, humility, and infatuation with pretty girls. But what takes this band beyond the bland is the expressiveness of the vocals that, though occassionally straining, emotionally fill out the lyrics. The music also, though formulaic, draws on many elements, using short melodies that tend to stick in the head. And while marketing is apparently important- 4 tunes presented with 2 (quite similar) remixes, there is an infectious fullness to their music. (LP/PMZ)

**AGATHOCLES**, "Fascination of Mutilation" (Rigid Records, 7215 N. Highland Ave., Tampa, FL 33604): Five tracks of thrash/sludge rock from this Belgian group, recorded live in Aalst. They go in for growly vocals, fast guitars, and lurics of doom and destruction, with some tendency towards unfortunate anatomical imagery. Put your fingers in a vice and squeeze it shut to get a similar effect without a stereo handy. (FL/MG)

**AGENT 86**, "Vietnam Generation" (PO Box 70354, Washington, DC 20024) Billed as DC's only political hardcore band, though I doubt the veracity of that statement, politically oriented this band is. The 4 short tunes start with a call for anarchy in "No God, No Guns, No Government," proceding to complain of government manipulation in "Vietnam Generation." "South Africa" then compares the US black/white Native American/white abuse to the South African plight. The only exception is a lethargic cover of "Stepping Stone," similar to but slower than Minor Threat's cover. Though their perspectives and concerns are not unique, Agent 86 is still motivated in their grinding observations. (EP/PMZ)

**RIKK AGNEW'S YARDSALE**, "Emotional Vomit" (Triple X Records, 6715 Hollywood Blvd. #284, Hollywood, CA 90028): A solo effort (well, backed by an assortment of other folks, but the focus is on Agnew) by an ex-member of the Adolescents. It's punky and crunchy, but mostly pretty lackluster, not breaking much new ground or giving real hooks for the listener. On blue vinyl, but that doesn't really make it exciting these days. (LP/MG)

**AIRCRAFT**, self-titled ($7 from Steve Cohen, 500 E 77th St, Apt 531, NY, NY 10021) Synthetic musings composed over a decade. Steve Cohen is Aircraft, using a host of synthesizers and rhythm devices, at times adding bass and guitar. If you're familiar with the Audion or Private Music labels, then you're familiar with this music: pleasant progressions of warmly colored tonalities and melodies based on undercurrents of repetetive synth bass and relaxed back mixed drums, over which sustained tones swell. The results are enjoyable, though a bit safe, and I found myself preferring the earlier (especially '84) works that introduced darker, less predictable structures. (T/PMZ)

**PHEEROAN AKLAFF**, "Sonogram" (MU Productions, 111 4th Ave #5A, NY, NY 10003) akLaff, sideman on countless jazz recordings, here defines his own sound with the incredible band of Sonny Sharrock, John Stubblefield, Carlos Ward and Kenny Davis. Without piano, a darker tone is held by the quintet, guitar sometimes holding the ground behind the dual sax voicings that construct akLaff's abstracted melodies, very much in a Miles Davis "Sorcerer" mood. akLaff's greatest strength is his ability to create a continuous stream of counter rhythms, shifting concepts and seething cymbal work that always fit with the action of the music. That action is both a hazy moodiness and a fiery kick where the band blows with intelligible freedom and introspective warmth. (T/PMZ)

**ALBERT THE M**, self-titled (Bliss Street Music, PO Box 470564, San Francisco, CA 94147): Sort of folky, a bit of punk in some spots, with lyrics that could have been pulled out of the C&W world somewhere. The band features anonymous musicians, strong harmonizing vocals, and a clean and bouncy sound. Very entertaining, though hard to pigeonhole. (T/MG)

**ALICE DONUT**, "Mule" ($7.50 from Alternative Tentacles, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101): Weird punk folk music that whines and waits its way through a session of dangerous images and forbidden thoughts. From the opening song (a first person number by the Virgin as punkette) to the ending rant ("Cow's Placenta To Armageddon", in which everyone dies "except for roaches, bacteria, etc."), this group plays with your mind while whipsawing your ears from gentle melodies to aggressive horns and back. (LP/MG)

**ALICE IN CHAINS**, "We Die Young" (Columbia, 51 W. 52nd St., New York, NY 10019): This three-song EP is a taster for a forthcoming album, and it doesn't disappoint. Alice in Chains are from Seattle, home to myriads of bands usually perceived as following one of two avenues: the "Sub-Pop'ish" (i.e., Mudhoney, Soundgarden) or the "Popllama/Frontier'ish" (i,e, Young Fresh Fellows). And though there are elements of both these styles to be found in the band's music, there's also a lot more. Cross Soundgarden and The Fluid with, oh, Aerosmith for starters. And maybe throw in a little Motorhead, maybe some Cheech & Chong (anyone remember their crazy little song "Earache My Eye"?)...and then give just a dash of some good ole "Pacific Northwest" pop music to give it all a rousing upbeat touch. And all this in only three songs. Can't wait to hear what else they do. (EP/CS)

**ALIEN SEX FIEND**, "Now I'm Feeling Zombiefied" (Sinclair Records, c/o Mechanic Records, 6 Greene St. 2nd Fl, New York, NY 10013): More bizarre music from monster movies of the future. Nik and Mrs. Fiend put together a sort of Alice Cooper on barbiturates riff for the A Side here (entirely taken up by the title cut) and carry it on with a dub version on the flip. Dance music to shuffle rather than rock out to. (LP/MG)

**DAVIE ALLEN**, "Old Neck and New Strings" (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): Twanging fuzzbox guitar instrumentals from a player we haven't heard anything from in a few decades (his claim to fame is having played the music for a Nancy Sinatra/Peter Fonda movie). These pieces run from cycle to surf music, boogieing along without vocals and generally wailing. Not super exciting, but solid playing. (LP/MG)

**G.G. ALLIN**, "Inside Outside" ($5 from Bitter Boy Records, PO Box 71, Plain City, OH 43064): This record has it all: red vinyl, a track that runs from the inside of the record out, and of course the talents of G.G. and the Disappointments. This is a complete record of a live show about two months before G.G.'s arrest (all profits go to him in prison) and it's actually good sound quality, raucous, and even musical. "Send Me Dead Flowers" even came out a touching ballad. The cutting edge of assault rock lives! (45/MG)

**A' LOVING OVEN**, "Whoa Baby, Stop!" (Doug Wofsey, 2866 Kipling NW, Massillon, OH 44646): This one bills itself as "the 1st Avant Garde Hillbilly Band", though the hillbilly influence seems to be tenuous at best. Mostly it is fairly standard industrexperimental fare, featuring horns and found sounds and wild jams and experiments with tempo. (T/MG)

**ALVARO**, "The Chilean With the Singing Nose" ($1 for Tape plus Alvaro Awareness Package from Steven DeFoe, PO Box 451, Collinsville, CT 06022): If John Lennon had been born in Chile, he might have been influenced by Alvaro, whose experiments with music include short little rants about the sweets of England ruining a good set of teeth and solo piano ditties fantasizing about being born Pinocchio. Labeled anywhere from a "fucking genius" to "eccentric," this available experimentalist writes dirges (about drinking his own sperm, no less) that sound like piano singalongs. Takes just a little getting used to, but it's well worth it. (T/CG/KL)

**AMANDA BY NIGHT**, self-titled (Susstones Records, Box 6425, Minneapolis, MN 55406): This one was a quirky little release that took some time for me to warm up to it. When I did, I found it to be an art, melodramatic take on garage/post-punk rock music. I'm still not crazy about it...But I didn't dislike it either. (45/CS)

**AMENITY**, "This Is Our Struggle" ($3.50 from Vinyl Communications, PO Box 8623, Chula Vista, CA 92012): A classy release on grey vinyl with a nice lyrics poster and screened sleeve. Of course that wouldn't mean a thing if the sound weren't there too. Fortunately it is. The title cut is the strongest, an anti-racism song that appears in both a regular and dub mix, both pounding with bass line and shouted lyrics. Cool post-punk that maintains a hardcore edge. (45/MG)

**AMSCRAY AMOK**, "Ugly Toast" ($3 from Spilling Audio, 540 Madison Ave. #7, Albany, NY 12210): Calliope music from hell. This duo takes old familiar tunes, things that are supposed to be comforting, and drags them through the sonic muck, emerging with terrifying new changes. Look on it as an antidote to *Mr. Roger Neighborhood*. Naturally, it's not polite to come out in public supporting such things—but I did enjoy their warped view of clowning around very much. (T/MG)

**ANARCHUS**, "Final Fall of the Gods" (Rigid Records, 7215 N. Highland Ave., Tampa, FL 33604): Screaming Mexican hardcore anti-religious punk rock on yellow vinyl. The four piece puts together a strong attack led by Pancho's throat-sore vocals, and backed up by a mix of turgid bass and fast guitars. The international punk language is still going strong. (EP/MG)

**ANARCHY**, "Blood, Sweat, and Mayhem" (Rock City Prod., 1415 Main St. #720, Worcester, MA 01603): Aggressive punk music with a definite attitude problem. "Born to Be Scum" is the tune that they seem to be happiest singing (if that's the word I want), and it seems to make them quite pleased with themselves. "Spitting Blood" is another strong cut, while "Love You Too Much", a tender ballad, oddly doesn't sound out of place despite its similarity to music from, say, the Turtles. (T/MG)

**AN EMOTIONAL FISH**, self-titled, (Atco Records, Division of Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Seems like every debut album's first track is their knock-out. So it goes with this relatively new Irish band whose big break came from U2's indie label, Mother Records. "Celebrate," the first song, sounded to me like "travelin'" music—the kind you want to hear as you're pulling out of the driveway for a road trip. There is a decided U2 influence in here, you can't miss it. The music is tight and fiery, kind of like early Van Morrison, although some lyrics tend to get stuck in repetition. Later on in the tape the music becomes less fiery and more moody. (T/CG)

**ANUS THE MENACE**, self-titled (Flip Side Records, PO Box 4084, Whittier, CA 90607-4084) This punk outfit plays driving rock with a spidery, insidious guitar sound on this 5 song 45, split into 'left cheek' and 'right cheek' sides. Members Johnny Anus, Phil Colon and Mike the Menace create short and angry tunes, from "I Wish I Was Gay (So You Would Hate Me)" to "Your Poison or Mine." The vocal style is very much in the Minutemen vein, and particularly with "Your Poison...," the spirit of D. Boone still speaks through Johnny Anus' mouth; the comparison is furthered by the shortness of the songs and their justified bile. On red sphincter vinyl, this single recalls the roots of punk. (45/PMZ)

**ARCANE DEVICE/PGR**, "Fetish" (Silent Records, 540 Alabama #315, San Francisco, CA 94110): A split CD of experimental electronic music. Arcane Device has a science fictional sound, heavy on the feedback, with lots of penetrating noise. PGR tends to be a bit more subtle, using silences to manipulate consciousness between bursts of obscure noise, an ambient music of quick sharp experience. (CD/MG) [MA#1052]

**ARMAND & THE MOUSE ORCHESTRA**, "Early Squeaks Vol. 1-2" ($7.50 from Steven McDonald, PO Box 7091, Burbank, CA 91510-7091): Documentation of several years' worth of synthesizer experiments which ultimately comes across as just that—documentary and experimental, rather than musically compelling. The problem is that there's just so much of this (all McDonald's solo work, incidentally), and although individual pieces bring in a nice Irish influence or a bit of primitive beat or some swirly space music, the overall effect is of a neverending musical wallpaper. (2T/MG)

**ARMLESS AND ANGRY**, "I Jump Up and Down on My Guitar Everyday" (PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224) This isn't as bad as it is monotonously boring: A&A members Bloated Fuck, Raw Idiot Brainless, Nothing Butt Scum and Filthy Armless seemingly succeed in "bringing grindcore to a new all-time low." Grindcore here means poorly recorded, distant distorted guitars, dull primitive drums and altered voices, punctuated with quotes from radio and the like. In 30 minutes there are 58 tunes, with titles like "Eat a Handi-wipe," "I Fell Down" and "You're Shit"; after hearing the first couple of tunes, you've heard it all. Recommended only for prolonging a migraine. (T/PMZ)

**ART LEPERS**, "Famine Fist" (Stungus Music, PO Box 6963, San Mateo, CA 94403): The tape includes an insert of the band's dadaist and surrealist manifesto of nine principles, the most amusing of which are "We believe in the paradox of Salvador Dali: 'The only difference between myself and a madman is that I am not mad,'" and "We will not demand our manifesto: it is mutable." The band's music is a blend of sequences, industrial noises and straightahead rock and roll. Some of the songs look at the negative aspects of reality, and many of them have a sense of irony and humor not found elsewhere. (T/DW)

**ART LEPERS**, "This Hideous Mass" ($3 from Adam Douglas, Media Communications, 44 S. Palomar Dr., Redwood City, CA,94062) Side 1 is titled "Sleep Is Lovely, Death Is Better Still" and side two is titled "Resperation", both are extremely apropriate for what they name as the music draws you into a uncomfortable but restful state. Industrial noise fornicating with fuzzy sampling and other indistinguishable sources. Beautiful and mezmerizing. (T/RS)

**ARTLESS**, "Beer Is Better Than Girls Are" b/w "Crassdriver" ($3.50 from Vinyl Communications, PO Box 8623, Chula Vista, CA 92012): A blue-vinyl reissue of a pair of tunes from the classic "Crassdriver" LP. The first is sort of a response to those old jokes about cucumbers being better than men, done in an intimate punk-polka style. The flipside trashes intolerant punk thinking, as exemplified by the bands Crass and Skrewdriver, left and right respectively. Hard driving punk with intelligent lyrics that'll whet your appetite for more. (45/MG)

**AURORE**, "Etant Donnes" ($20 *CASH* from Touch, 13 Osward Road, London SW17 7SS, UK): French experimental music that's distinctively different, in large part because of their overamplified whispering vocals, giving a raspy enveloping presence. Spacy electronics form the backdrop, along with some looping and other technowizardy. A visceral, hypnotizing performance. (CD/MG) [MA#1053]

**BAD EGG SALAD**, self-titled ($5 from 932 Austin Ave, Atlanta, GA 30307) This Egg Salad isn't so bad, but the bread isn't too great. The basic recipe is harsh, dark rock, with frantic riffs and a heavy, tortured vocal style that bring The Birthday Party to mind. The problem with this tape is the recording, the bread of my analogy, which is quite bad, dropping all warmth and proximity from the band, preferring delays to reverbs, and bringing the drums up with cold tinniness. Despite nice packaging and a naked clone sticker, a tastier loaf would make a finer sandwich. (T/PMZ)

**THE BAGS**, self-titled (Stanton Park Records, PO Box 58, Newtonville, MA 02160): Sloppy loud fun-loving rock from the winners of the 1989 WBCN Rock and Roll Rumble. Power garage pop metal is about as close as I can come to describing their sound, close to the central energy that *is* rock while still willing to wander off into memories of dinosaurs or the occasional jazzy dissonance. (LP/MG)

bad egg salad
Atlanta Psych Grunge
10 Song Tape $5
932 Austin Ave.
Atlanta, GA
30307
MULLETTHEAD

**B AND R**, "Keep The Faith" ($5 from 428 Eden Park Blvd., McKeesport, PA 15132): Power thrash from a young Pittsburgh quartet that's working hard. They charge their way through four songs on this demo, putting all the guitar notes in the right place, ganging up on the drumbeat, and featuring some powerful vocals as well. Lyrically they have yet to discover a voice of their own, but for field newcomers they're doing well. (T/MG)

**THE BARBARIAN LOVERS**, "Hit To My Heart" b/w "Simon Templar" (Blue City Productions, PO Box 1060, Massapequa, NY 11758): Melodic dark and complex pop songs from an anonymous group of players. The flip side, a takeoff on the well-worn plots of a dozen spy series, fairly rips with energy, projected mainly through the female vocalist's voice. Cool late-night listening. (45/MG)

**BATTERY**, self-titled (c/o Evan Sornstein, PO Box 687, North Bennington, VT 05257): Self-described cyberpunk music, composed and produced through computer and Midi technology. The trio combines weird synthetic riffs with lots of angry disturbing sounds and culturally-significant samples to produce a music for a crumbling civilization. The barbarian hordes will be playing this stuff on their walkmen as they pillage and burn. (T/MG) [MA#1054]

**BEAT PATROL**, self-titled ($6 from Bob Baker, PO Box 63423, St. Louis, MO 63163): Unusual alternative pop with lots of melody—you can feel The Ramones and others lurking in the background here. Aptly titled, they take their name too seriously, because the constant beat gets in the way of the music. (T/CG)

**THE BEAUTIFUL**, self-titled (Warner Bros., 342 N. Maple Dr. Suite 205, Beverly Hills, CA, 90210) This three member band from New York doesn't adhere to the supposed "rules" of rock and roll. Melodic rock guitar with rythm bass and percussion that work well together by creating interesting beats to support the melody. Vocals are harmonious with the music, not seperate and floating above, but are worked in to actually become one of the instruments. (T/RS)

**THE BEDLAM ROVERS**, "Frothing Green" (Heyday Records, PO Box 411332, San Francisco, CA 94141-1332): Fun punk Celtic music, somewhere around the same musical territory being mined by the Mekons though perhaps a bit more tuneful in spots. They dish up a tempting mix of guitars, mandolin, violin, drums, and lots of vocal harmonies, with occasional harp and cello as well. "Updated Traditional" is the best way I can find to put their sound, a fresh modern approach to old ways of making music. (LP/MG)

**BEER**, "Live To Drink" ($3 from Vague Records, 20 Sprague Ave. #1, Cranston, RI 02910): Fun rock from a band that aspires to drunkenness but remains witty throughout. They sing of slasher movies, spoiled lives, being losers, all in a sort of bar-brawl voice with guitars flying everywhere. Probably poor role models, but who cares? (T/MG)

**BEGGAR WEEDS**, "Sure Pants Alot" ($5 from Junior Highness, PO Box 451, Chapel Hill, NC 27514): I'm afraid this particular brand of rock left me cold. Though the songs are punchy and rootsy and perhaps even a bit influenced by more down-home kinds of music, the vocals just don't cut it. The boys in the band sound like they're trying hard enough, but they just haven't got it. (EP/MG)

**JERRY BENZ**, "Thirsty As A Dish" ($5 from Native Parade Productions, 783 Woodland Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07062): Warped pop music from one of my favorite warped pop musicians. Jerry puts together this weird Zappaesque on the edge of improv sound, and adds in lyrics about "The Big Pabst Bottle" and "Bicycle Built For Wrong" (to name a pair from this album). Jangly rhythms, nervy musics, good fun. (T/MG) [MA#1055]

**BHAGAVAD-X**, "Elysian Beaches" (SASE for catalog to Tranquil Technology Music, P.O. Box 20463, Oakland, CA 94620): I read the warning on the cassette label ("Caution: Do not listen to this tape while operating a motor vehicle or heavy machinery.") and thought it pretty funny, but soon realized it was no joke. Not that I keeled over at my jackhammer with this stuff

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cranked on my headphones, but the stated intent of this "brain entrainment hemisphere synchronization" experience is to put you right to sleep. Mr. B. is said (in his publicity bio) to have sold all his acoustic instruments so he could buy the gear necessary to replicate the Tibetan Singing Bowl effect without the Tibetans, singers, or bowls. Is it soothing? Yeah, sorta. It gets a little raucous near the end of Side 2, and the electronic "waves" are too insistent for my hemispheres to properly synchronize, but maybe that's just me. Some people have adverse reactions to antihistamines, too. You never can tell. (T/KS)

BIG DRILL CAR, "Small Block" (Cruz Records, PO Box 7756, Long Beach, CA 90807): Power pop from the same label that brought you All. Their explorations of the whumpa-whumpa-thump-sincere vocal school of songwriting won't win them any prizes for depth, but they do what they do well enough. Unfortunately it seems to be a deadly serious drone, quick changes followed by more drone, that just didn't connect with me. (EP/MG)

THE BILL JONES SHOW, "I'm Sammy Bananas" (PO Box 2707, North Canton, OH 44720) 'Welcome to Fred's. I'm Sammy Bananas'... so starts this silly tape of synth song strangeness. From that welcome to an audio list of things to do (wahoo), Jones alone and with The M.C. Nuggets pulls out 12 short tunes of curious perspectives, including "The Day the Pictures Came Alive," a mini "Autobiography," "I Was a Teenage Frankenstein Junkpile," and a bothered "Bugs on Me." The music is built around synth, bass and drum machines, the Nugget's guitar assisting on Frankenstein, and manipulated voice, raising and lowering the pitch. The results are a quirky collection of quick ideas fulfilling the Sammy Bananas name. (T/PMZ)

THE BILL JONES SHOW, "Where's Ghoulardi?" (Doug Wofsey, 2866 Kipling NW, Massillon, OH 44646): Weird tinny organ music and chants that run from a plea for a vanished horror-movie host to some abusive and abrasive yelling. Some of these cuts—such as "There's Nothing to Eat At My Parents' House"—remind a bit of Happy Flowers, but with a lot more musical talent. "Thank You, Russ Meyer", is another movie-related and very sincere-sounding ditty here. Cheerfully warped pop music. (T/MG)

BIOHAZARD, self-titled (Maze America, 96 S. Long Beach Rd., Rockville Centre, NY 11570): Inner city mayhem metal that goes for the low grinding sound of colliding subway cars. Their lead guitarist breaks out ahead of the pack with lightning solos, then gets dragged back with the onslaught of the combined stone-age vocals. They sing of growing up on the wrong side of the tracks and being ground down by the system, archetypal themes for much of today's youth. (T/MG) [MA#1056]

THOM BISHOP, "Restless State of Grace" (Profile Records, 740 Broadway, New York, NY 10003): Middle American rootsy sounds combined with a light touch to make this more of a pop record than a rock one, primed for Heartland radio. But Bishop knows the cities too, and writes of the trials of living in the barrio and the pain of senseless death along with the lighter numbers about having a sense of life. "Thousand-Pointed Man" is as strong an indictment of the system as I've heard lately. (LP/MG)

KAREN BLACK, "Alaska" b/w "Neiborachie" (Vital Music, 81 Second Ave, NY, NY 10003) Thick, dark and dirty rock as led by guitarist Samoa and vocalist Kembra Pfahler. Pfahler sings in a husky style, often simply speaking what's on her mind, which happens to be a rambling complaint about cities and filth, thinking of moving to Alaska because a picture of that city looked nice. "Neiborachie" is about the quiet guy next door who wants to kill. The music is heavy handed and the lyrics blunt, the best part of the package the insert of Kendra and Samoa mostly nude in various disguise. But even though it's not particularly good, it's strange enough to stay in my collection. (45/PMZ)

BLAKE BABIES, "Sunburn" ($15.50 from Mammoth Records, Carr Mill 2nd Fl., Carrboro, NC 27510): Hot on the heels of their first full-length Mammoth release comes this engaging disc. You could call this guitar rock, or even New Wave-ish, but that wouldn't capture the utter sincerity and lyrical oddness of the Blake Babies, a group that gets more soothing even as they get more obscure. "Girl In A Box" is one of the mind-benders here, with "A Million Years" weighing in as beautiful thanks to vocals from Juliana Hatfield. A good band that's only getting better. (CD/MG)

THE BLANKS, "If This Had Been An Actual Emergency" $7 from Bill B., Falsified Records, PO Box 1010, Birmingham, MI 48012): A bit of punk, a bit of funk, and a rebellious anarchist attitude carry this band along into some cool dance music for turned-on kids. "Be False To Your School" is my favorite here, although "Weekend Education"—about the learning that goes on outside the classroom—may be superior musically. This three piece knows how to think *and* how to play. (LP/MG) [MA#1057]

BLASPHEMY, "Fallen Angel of Doom" ($10 from Wild Rags Records, 2207 W. Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640): This is death metal carried to some sort of ridiculous ultimate. The lead vocalist, who styles himself "Nocturnal Grave Desecrator and Black Winds", sounds more like he's dry-heaving all the way through the record; without a lyric sheet the content would be impossible to guess. But fortunately the sheet is there, and you can read all about Christ burning and death and destruction and annihilation and other cheery subjects while the guitars bore a hole through your head. (LP/MG)

BLATZ, "Cheaper Than The Beer" (Lookout! Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Yowling screaming punk rock that's a lot of fun. Anna and Annie have voices like twin buzzsaws, belting out the lyrics as if to compete with guitar feedback that isn't even here. Behind them you get a batch of noise, drums, lyrics about fucking shit up and otherwise having a fine youthful time. Exploding angst. (45/MG)

BLESS, "Gums" (Bad Taste Ltd, 660 Bryant, San Francisco, CA 94107) Icelandic Bless play rock with a raw sophistication, remarkably similar to early Pixies in voice and intent. The vocals growl and shout with Icelandic accent that sounds downright hispanic, though a Tom Verlaine expressiveness and quality also makes a good analogy. The band is incredibly energetic, varying from gutsy sparseness to explosive rock, their Sugarcubes roots showing in spots. The lyrics are impressively bizarre: strange, twisted images of hate, love and cheese, with recurring dream themes in an impressionistic blend that is both silly and frightening. And if that's not enough, the album is dedicated to Tex Avery, whose cartoon cuts make cameo appearances. Definitely worth checking out. (LP/PMZ)

BOBHOUSE, "Sompin' Big Dubbah" (Wu Wel Pfoductions, 128 Exeter Rd, Newmarket, NH 03857) Down and dirty rock with a country/folk flavor of clean vocals and backing female harmonies. Wah guitar is used a lot, with some tasteful solos and an overall decent ballsy sound. Though it's a pop orientation that motivates them, and the female backing is often rich for my tastes, songs like "Lightness" are definitely successful and full sounding. (T/PMZ)

BOOGIE DOWN PRODUCTIONS, "Edutainment" (Jive c/o RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): The latest from rapper KRS-One, this one is a mix of music and lecturing. A lot of knowledge is passed through the lyrics and chats here, along with beats ranging from laid-back reggae to in-your-face hardcore rap. Most of the album is pitched at Blacks, with a strong anti-racist slant. (CD/MG)

BOOM AND THE LEGION OF DOOM, "Detroit" ($PO Box 219, B.C., MI 49016-0219): Sludgy grungy music (if that's the right word) with song titles like "Dismemberment" and "Clint Eastwood". They get heavily into yowling and guitar turgidness. It's on multi-colored psychedelic vinyl, and the opinion around these offices was that it looks much better than it sounds. (LP/MG)

BOP (HARVEY), "Bread & Circuses" (Relativity, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): This is a not-quite-reissue of the band's own album of the same name. A few cuts have been added, a few dropped, but the world beat energy and sheer powerful fun remains. The two "Lazarus" cuts and the title track are still my favorites, though "Fun!" is right up there with them. Absolutely perfect party music that's been in my player a lot over the past year and will remain there for the foreseeable future. (CD/MG)

BOROX ORGY, self-titled ($5 from K. Kreider, PO Box 70791, Washington, DC 20024): A demo tape that doesn't sound too bad, though it's hard to tell a lot about the band from it. They play a sort of choppy pop music, heavier on the fun than on the polish, with lots of tradeoff vocals and a few heavy moments. Reminds me a bit of All and similar material. (T/MG)

BOUFFANT JELLYFISH, "Six Month Shelf Life" (Rock Arts Ltd., PO Box 160668, Austin, TX 78716-0668): An impressive followup to their demo tape, this one confirms BJ's status as one of the best of the current wave of funky rock bands. The sound here is heavier than on their demo, with "Pseudo Bohiem Backlash" being an offhand acknowledgment of their Zeppelin influence, while "Coach" and "War Peace Guilt Fuck" speak out in different ways against overbearing authority. AN excellent tape to crank way up, over and over again. (T/MG)

BOXCAR, "Vertigo" (Arista Records, 6 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019): Australian techno-dance music that stays away from the sheer plasticity found in most examples of the form. From the standard choppy rhythms and guitars to some really strange sampled sounds, the band throws in enough change-ups to keep the interest while never losing the beat. Nothing distinctively Australian here, just foot-bouncing rhythms that would be at home on dancefloors worlDWide. (CD/MG)

ANDY BRECKMAN, "Don't Get Killed" ($8 tape or $10 CD from Gadfly Records, PO Box 6603, New York, NY 10128): An absolutely wonderful album of very, very funny folk music. I almost died laughing during "Railroad Bill", a song I will most likely be demanding many friends listen to when they visit. Breckman puts a guitar together with his voice and a wild imagination and produces great entertainment, the sort of music that's timeless and appeals to darned near everyone. Hysterical fun. (CD/MG) [MA#1058]

ALISON BROWN, "Simple Pleasures" (Vanguard, 1299 Ocean Ave. #800, Santa Monica, CA 90401): Ultra-pleasant banjo-based instrumental album that ranges from bluegrass to jazz. Brown has won plenty of honors in the music world—including the Canadian National Banjo Championship—and her skill shows clearly here. With backup from a bunch of fiddle and bass and guitar players, she does everything from wild hoedowns to gentle nature songs to something the sounds like Mr. Rogers taken away to the deep south. Enjoyable and unusual. (CD/MG) [MA#1059]

THE BROWN CUTS NEIGHBORS, "Broken Down Like a Bean" ($3 from Wow Cool, PO Box 847, Schenectady, NY 12301) Fun packaging and abnormality on this 7", with a 12 page booklet to guide you through the nonsensical and spontaneous world of B.C.N. The five songs here range from the angular rock noisiness of "Truckhead," densely overlaying everything at hand, to the folky "The Fashion Parade Goes Blust," with strange images 'tracking mannequin heads through the dinnerscape,' besides a song about astrochimps and a jam with a jig saw. The voices of Hanna Barbara cartoons are heard throughout, credited for inspiration and nuturing; drawings in this vein fill the booklet, along with lyrics, photos, and an amusing set of random ideas. Like the label: Wow Cool. (EP/PMZ)

**BRUME**, "Unrelated Landscape" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): 46 minutes of electronic music and sounds slow paced and well layered with an economy of tracks. Differing points of rhythm and non-rhythm tap shoulders here and there rendering variance and cohesiveness within each piece. Overall, the effect is concrete and tangible and very interactive from a listener's standpoint. (T/JCM)

**BUFFALO TOM**, "Birdbrain" (RCA Records, 6363 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028): Shades of the Zulu's figure in here, as well as Dinosaur Jr—this is a Guitar band with a capital G. It's sometimes hard to hear anything else, including lyrics, which is a shame because songs like the title have great irony and rebel youth appeal. Singer Bill Janowitz's hoarse vocals get lost too much in the guitar blitz (which is tight on its own, however) and we lose what could be valuable lyrics from an impassioned source. (T/CG)

**BURNT WEENY SANDWICH**, "kerschnackled" ($7.00 from Airburst, PO Box 993, Chambersburg, PA 17201): Fun, foot-stompin'—some may say "mindless" thrash. What separates these thrashers from the norm is that they all sing the lyrics in unison—so it's *understandable*, fun, foot-stompin' thrash. Enjoyed "How I Got These Scars Here" and "Let's Be Squid"—stupid, fast and funny. (T/CG/KL)

**CHRIS CAGGIANO**, "Sunder" ($1.75 from Chris Caggiano, 1757 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NY 11385): Caggiano's heart is in the right place, singing about the Intifada and police presence on the Lower East Side and war and fighting prejudice and the lies of those in power. But musically, well, he's got a voice that might be charitably characterized as a drone, and backs it with a single guitar. Comes with a lyric book, which can be read as poetry to better effect than it can be heard as music. (T/MG)

**DONALD CAMPAU**, "Guaranteed Injection Comfort or Your Money Back" (Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661) Campau creates two complementary forms of sound. The first relates to his musical instinct: guitar improvisation of a dirty Frippish nature over a controlled chaos of high density bass, keyboard, drum machine, samples and noise. The other form deemphasizes the guitar, creating seething looping structures altered and oscillated. Voices and sounds are layered, cut, and shifted in rhythm over guitar, synthetic sounds and white noise. The results are a soupy musique concrete, and that soupy aspect may distract, as a dull fidelity accompanies the density of the results. But if a thick mix of an experimental bent crossed with technical skill appeals, you'll find it here. (T/PMZ)

**CANNIBAL CORPSE**, "Eaten Back To Life" (Death Records, 18653 Ventura Blvd. #311, Tarzana, CA 91356): Vocalist Chris Barnes sounds like he's been gargling with gravel; combine this with pounding thrash guitar and heavy-handed bass and you have some sort of prototypical death metal sound. The lyrics are tagged with a parental advisory, and are full of maggots and feasting undead and violent death and other cheerful things. So far out in the genre as to be almost a parody. (T/MG)

**CARNAL GARAGE**, self-titled (Subliminal Compression Records, 139 Salem St, Suite #5, Boston, MA 02113) Hard energy and frantic vocals fuel this Boston band. John Hayes' voice is in the foreground, reminiscent of Crime & the City Solution's in tone and delivery, though not as strong or emotive, unleashing energy with a cynical but not hateful edge. Below, the band pushes hard, creating a turbid flow of strong repetetive grooves, quick bass repetitions and a blanket of guitar noise. Occassionally falling into a plaintive delivery, not everything comes together perfectly, but solid songs like "Frozen" or "Stones and Crosses" show great potential. (T/PMZ)

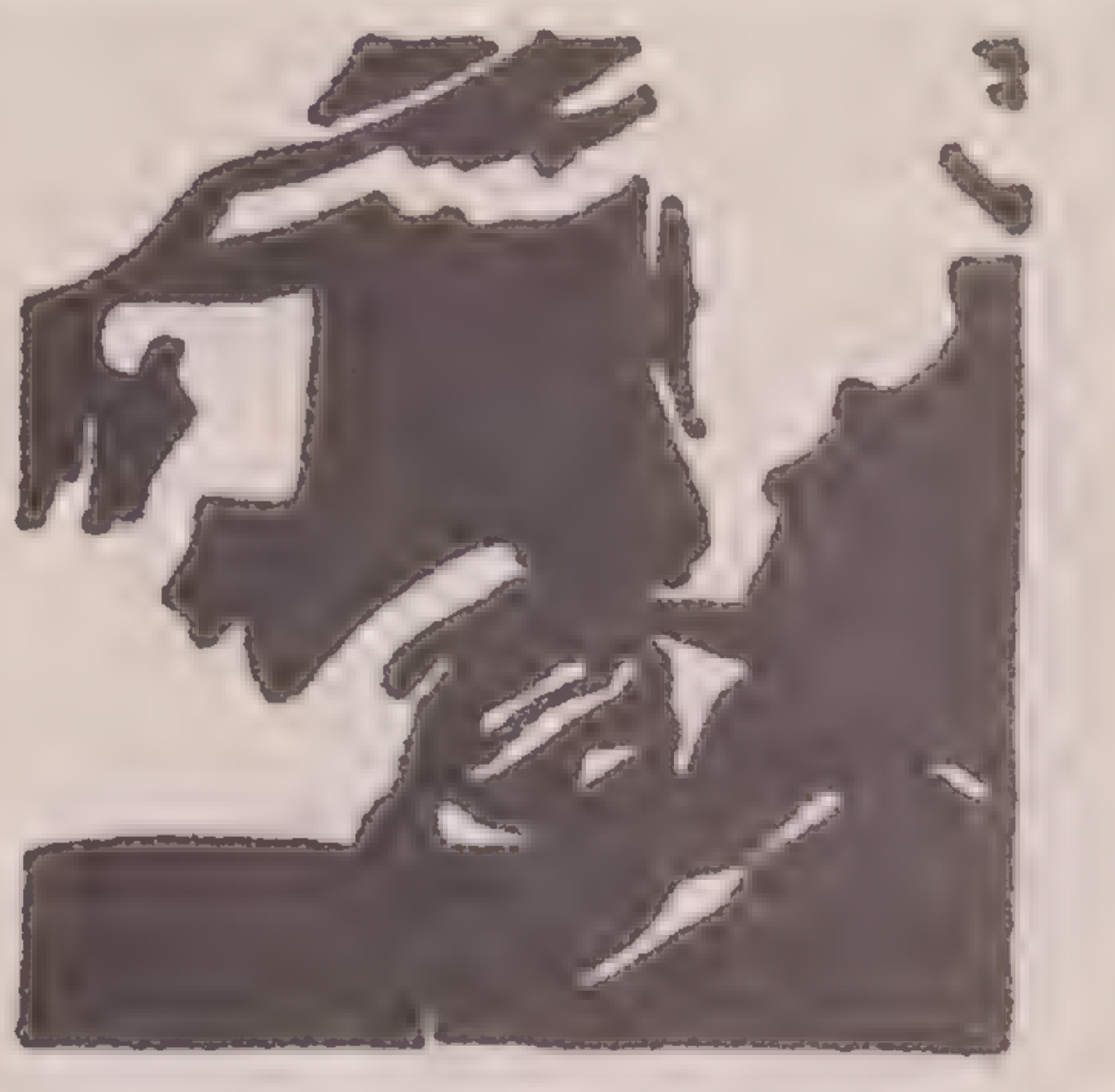
**CARRY NATION**, self-titled (Heyday Records, PO Box 411332, San Francisco, CA 94141-1332): Quirky highstrung folk music with a distinct but hard to pin down ethnic sound to it. Darlene Youmans violin playing helps to hold it all together, along with Beth McCormack's flute—plus the usual rock guitars and drum kit. Folk-rock with a fresh young face and lots of vigor. (LP/MG)

**CAT RAPES DOG**, "Gods, Guns, & Gasoline" (Cargo, PO Box 9055, 7741 Drury Ln., La Jolla, CA 90238-9055): Swedish techno-rock (you can tell it's Swedish because it ends with some bizarre Scandinavian a capella ditty) that seems to be out to clear the dancefloors with small arms fire. They come in with a mix of synthetics, howling, lots of keyboards, heavy guitars, and lyrics like "Burning Diesel Midwest Fury/Preacher Gospel Final Deadline". Wild. (LP/MG)

**CAUSTIC**, self-titled ($3 from 520 N. Bundy, Los Angeles, CA 90049): Well, they sound OK, these punkoids, but that's about as far as I'll go. A three-piece, they play their way through four poetic songs of trying to figure out what life is all about, bashing the tunes back and forth at one another, sounding very sincere on their clear vinyl. Odd that the cover picture is definitely not of the band heard inside. (EP/MG)

**CELLOPHANE CEILING**, "Fry" ($4.50 Main Vein Records, PO Box 31635, Omaha, NE 68131): Tight and clean power trio rock from the Midwest (but without that roots rock wimpiness). I enjoyed "Ponderous (White Rock)", with its lyrics of alienation and drugs. Wild gnarly harmonic blasts. A 7" version, with one less song, is also available for $3.50. (T/MG) [MA#1060]

**CELTIC FROST**, "Vanity/Nemesis" (Noise International c/o RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036):Polished metal that seems to be a lot more serious somehow than most of the guitar overkill albums out there today. Their lyrics, it must be admitted, don't make a lot of sense, though songs like "Phallic Tantrum" suggest perhaps they realize this too. On the whole, a good album, one that stands up better than most. (CD/MG)



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**CEREBRAL DISSONANCE**, "Indefatigable" (The Acension Network, 2505 Cedar Rd, Lake Stevens, WA 98258) The 3rd release in this 4 part series, the retrospective of a man's life continues. "Exit" begins at death's edge, examining past relationships as he laments wasted years in "Behind Your Smile." The band consistently creates a warm and sophisticated sound blending guitar textures, fretless bass, interactive drumming and subtle keyboards. The bass particularly is warmly evident in "Everything," playing rich strains amidst the lyrics. Also of note is the excellent guitar work of the moody "Behind Your Smile," crossing later Police approach with early Steve Hackett. Superb work as this concept continues. (T/PMZ)

**CERVIS**, "The Preserving Machine" ($5 from PO Box 23061, Knoxville, TN 37933): A collection of repeating synthetic melodies, overlaid with found vocals and tape loops. There's an eerie quality about these cuts through modern culture, which reduce originally-serious material to the most banal of madness. Deconstruction of our mass media culture. (T/MG) [MA#1061]

**CHAINSAW KITTENS**, "Violent Religion" (Mammoth Records, Carr Mill 2nd Fl., Carrboro, NC 27510): A brilliant record, and further proof that Mammoth is definitely one of the labels to watch for hot new talent. Despite the aggressive name, there's a lot of layers to their rock; thoughts of everyone from the Beatles to Poison Girls wafted through my head as I listened to this careful work. They go from brutal electric guitar work to tender ballad and back, with mind-expanding lyrics and great melodic interplay. (CD/MG)

**THOMAS CHAPIN**, "Radius" (MU Productions, 111 4th Ave. #5A, New York, NY 10003): Nice balance of traditional soft jazz with contemporary melodies. Entirely instrumental, Chapin brings together horns, flute and piano with perfect Sunday brunch rhythms. Hard to believe this is is first release, as he sounds more accomplished with the wide-ranging territory of his compositions. (T/CG)

**CHARLATANS UK**, "Some Friendly" (Beggars Banquet c/o RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): More happy British pop music from the industrialized northlands. These folks manage some pretty complex harmonies and stand out mainly because of the cool organ playing from Rob Collins. Pleasant stuff for those who are tired of being depressed. (CD/MG)

**CHRIS AND COSEY**, "Reflection" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave, Chicago, IL 60647) This retrospective of former Throbbing Gristle members presents work from '85-'81. The pieces are based on repetetive rhythms used to guide the often sensuous synth and sample constructions that describe their music. Transitioning backward, the newer material employs a richer and heavier sound, using darker synths, samples and more complex beats of unique sounds. The earlier material, from '82 and beyond, is simpler, relying on high pitched synths and choral voices, the samples relegated to the back, with vocals and a friendlier, if at times bland, approach to sound. An interesting reflection of evolved creativity and ability in the studio. (LP/PMZ)

**CHRISTIAN LUNCH**, "Unreliable Sources" (Alternative Tentacles, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101): Annoying techno-music that goes on for far too long with fairly good lyrics of opposition. "Drug Squad", though somewhat bloated, and "Neighborhood Watch" provide a tandem investigation of America's obsession with law enforcement and firepower for justice. (EP/MG)

**CLUBFOOT ORCHESTRA**, "Presents Nosferatu" (Rastascan Records, PO Box 3073, San Leandro, CA 94578-3073) I want to call this a gypsy orchestra, though eclectic 20th century chamber orchestra may be more accurate. Yet gypsy better describes what this assimilating orchestra creates, giving a hint of the ethnic flavors they so richly exude. Borrowing from classical and jazz, the orchestra creates amazing textures, incredible orchestral interactions, and hard blowing music, snapping between moods with rapid abandon; you almost feel like you're in a cartoon, so quickly does the action shift, yet so deftly handled is the orchestration that the listener is never left behind. Technically superb, there is no weak link to be heard; simply encompassing excellence. (T/PMZ)

**COO COO ROCKIN TIME**, "Coo Coo Party Time" (50 Skidillion Watts Records, 5721 SE Laguna Ave, Stuart, FL 34997-7828): This is a rockin' record of truly quirky tunes, based in the 50's with walking bass lines, rich jangly guitar and guttural sax, and topped with a friendly vocal oddness from David Fair, sounding incredibly like David Thomas. The band is formed from half of 1/2 Japanese, with one Tinkler thrown in; the relationship to 1/2 Jap is definitely there, but the warped nostalgic romp through the 50's really defines their sound. Fun titles like "Jenny Got Naked at a Party in 1989" and "Spank the Bullies" tell you more, along with my personal favorite, "Put Records Back in the Record Store." The perfect music for a silly party. (LP/PMZ)

**COPERNICUS**, "Null" (Nevermore, PO Box 170150, Brooklyn, NY 11217): Delirious mad improv music that rolls from social events to the life of an electron to ancient Egypt. A few of these pieces were practiced, but most are spontaneous events, with up to 18 musicians recording and a bedlam of conflicting horns and piano. Mad jazz for the modern age, Copernicus is one experience definitely worth checking out. (CD/MG) [MA#1062]

**THE RANDY COVEN BAND**, "Sammy Says Ouch!" (Guitar Recordings, PO Box 1490, Port Chester, NY 10573): Bassist Coven teams up with Alice Cooper's lead guitarist here to make an album of funky rock instrumentals (with a few wild cards thrown in—the unmistakable strains of the "F Troop" theme float through one crunchy tune for a moment). There's more substance than flash here, with Coven demonstratng a mastery of style and a talent for unexpected riffs. Guitar Recordings continues to put out excellent examples of virtuoso work. (CD/MG) [MA#1063]

**CRACKED BRAIN**, "Destruction" (Noise International, 5 Crosby St., New York, NY 10013): Hard ungiving metal with a decidedly nasty feel to it. They sing about death and stealing and depression and other traditional metal subjects, and don't really stand out from the pack—as either excellent or worthless. A reasonable loud way to spend some time. (CD/MG)

**CRINGER, HOPEFUL MONSTERS**, "Split EP" ($3 US/$4 Can/$5 Eur/$6 Asia from J. Kahn c/o Hippycore, PO Box 195, Mesa, AZ 85211) This package attempts to chip away at the producer-consumer-artist triad of alienation and frustration by integrating the work of two hardcore bands, Cringer and Hopeful Monsters, with stories and articles about the punitive system, police, and legislation in a 32 page booklet. The bands work well against each other, Cringer's richer punkish sound set against the nasty hardcore riffs and evil scream of Hopeful Monsters. The reasonable price reinforces the admirable aims of this production, and offers the consumer a chance to participate. (EP/PMZ)

**CRINGER**, "Karin" (Lookout Records, PO Box 4000, Laytonville, CA 95454) Upbeat hardcore of average quality dealing with everyday life, independence and despair. Seemingly a one beat band, every song returns to the same rhythm and progression, while the vocals sing/speak in similar rapid voice. The tunes aren't unpleasant, and grow on repeated listens, but overall it's not terribly exciting. (7"/PMZ)

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**CRIPPLED INTELLECT**, "Presents Charlie Core and Other Experiments" (2537 Colgate Way, Riverside, CA 92507) Dull ruminations of a meandering nature, electric guitar minimalisms and occassional noise tones, with muted voices and sounds in the background. Occassionally a bored voice sings or speaks, particularly about freeing Charles Manson so that he can kill the narrator. Seems pointless and boring to me. (T/PMZ)

**DAMASCUS**, "Soon...the Doors Will Open" (1112 Cherrywood, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056): Poetic Christian music, very low-key compared to most such things we hear around here—of course, we don't hear very much poetic music of any sort. The band is polished and sincere, very straightforward in their faith and hoping to share it with all listeners. I can see how it could be deeply affecting, not to mention a pleasant way to spend some time. (T/MG) [MA#1064]

**DANA DANE**, "4-Ever" (Profile, 740 Broadway, New York, NY 10003): A good—but not great—album that suffers from too many similarities to too many other bands. Sometimes it's reminiscent of Digital Underground. Sometimes of Price. Sometimes of Bobby Brown. The material is enjoyable, and the songs are executed very well. But it just doesn't have that killer instinct, that go for the jugular attitude that so much else of this music does have. It's a B release that, unfortunately, finds itself stacked up against one too many A's to make the kind of impact it really can. (LP/CS)

**DANA LYNN**, "Circle" b/w "Pothead", "Son" (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507) Nasty voiced hard rocking band that quickly transitions from wonderfully pretty melodic passages to kicking release. Dual guitars drive the band, cutting the sections with tearing noises, while a solid rhythm section centers the music, the bass particularly leading many of the more relaxed sections. The record is more personable from the conversation over breathy flute opening "Circle," and the childlike drawings on the label; nice marbled grey vinyl also. (45/PMZ)

**LARRY O. DEAN**, "Prince Charming" ($5 from Zenith Beast, PO Box 191671, San Francisco, CA 94119-1671): Mostly solo guitar rock, with a bit of backup violin and bass from time to time. Larry is into sincerity and this stuff seems related to the current wave of anti-folk, but a bit grittier and more personal. "Faith in the Face of Adversity" is a fine rant, a singer up against the modern world. (T/MG) [MA#1065]

**DEATH SQUAD**, "Noise Commands Respect" (Sub-Mission Records, PO Box 6824, St. Paul, MN 55106):Four songs of crossover that's close to hardcore but with some metal guitar work. The band sounds most committed and convinced on "Memo to the P.M.R.C.", which uses the f-word a couple of dozen times. They also do hard-assed anti-war and love songs, giving them a lyrical depth perhaps beyond what their music can support—or at least beyond the territory most hardcores mine. (EP/MG)

**DEVILS WIELDING SCIMITARS**, "Worry Dolls" ($7 from San Jacinto Records, PO Box 44277, Tucson, AZ 85723): A very pretty record spotlighting the vocal talents of Suzy Callahan, who at times is reminiscent of Debbie Harry circa "Heart of Glass". But the music here is far from that punk/New Wave axis, instead being middle of the road folky rock, quirky and playful but not overwhelming. A very fine first effort, and one that promises good things in the future. (LP/MG) [MA#1066]

**DHARMA BUMS**, "Bliss" (Frontier, PO Box 22, Sun Valley, CA 91353) Good rock with a dirty pop attitude of growling western tinged guitar lines and grainy, yearning vocals. The band is similar in sound to labelmate Thin White Rope, though generally more upbeat. Which is suprising considering the lyrics, which tend to pull the floor out from stability: crawling, falling, and running are recurrent actions amidst suffering, self-denial, and frustration. "Pumpkinhead"'s lithium image may explain the emotional content so effectively communicated over the strength of the music. And that music is strong, with powerful riffs, great bending guitar leads, and clear guitar interplay. All of which combine to serve the songs, ultimately the goal of this excellent band. (LP/PMZ)

**THE DILLARDS**, "Let It Fly" (Vanguard Recording Society, 1299 Ocean Ave. #800, Santa Monica, CA 90401): Hills music, a mix of country and bluegrass and folk with a few rock touches, from a group that's been putting this stuff out for a few decades, everywhere from theme parks to the *Andy Griffith Show*. Plenty of guitar picking, Ozark harmonies, and lonesome fiddlin' gives this a familiar quality, suitable for toe-tappin' and moderate drinking. (CD/MG)

**DOBERMAN**, "Attack!" ($5 from Doberman, 1753 Centinela Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90404) Simplistic, boring, generic; this band's "style" exemplifying rock minimalism leaves the listener with the concept that this three member band just can't play their instruments. Adding to the monotony, the recordings are sparsely clean and distant, although one song, "Moon Child", with an ethnic Greek feel seems to work well in this all too barren format. (T/RS)

**DAVID DOERING**, "So What" (PO Box 2894, Springfield, IL 62708-2894): Guitar, harmonica, raspy folk voice, socially conscious songs—the comparisons with Dylan are pretty well irresistable. Doering's got some cool things to say, too, especially in "Ride My Bus" (sprinkled liberally with celebrities) and "Spaceship Earth". Though he sings not much better than I do, the good humor and clever lyrics are a winning combination; I hope he establishes a firmer voice of his own. (T/MG)

**DOKTORS 4 BOB**, "A Lewd Spectacle of Wanton Depravity" ($7.50 from Janor Hypercleets, 422 1/2 S. Martin, Little Rock, Arkansas 72205): Country western tinged rudely loudmouth sub-genii singing wacked songs like "Fuck 'er One More Time," "Cut My Toe Off With a Lawnmower Blues," or "Told the Judge to Suck My Dick." The guitar provides some nasty rocking attacks, though more frequently settling into C&W picking set against harmonica, introducing a new musical form: Gosp-hell. Sound quality isn't great, and the insert not entirely legible, corresponding with the often sloppy attack of the band, but it's with a strange sense of fun, and definitely amuses. (T/PMZ)

**PAUL DOLDEN**, "The Threshold of Deafening Silence" ($21 from CMC Distribution Service, 20 St. Joseph St., Toronto, ONT, M4Y 1JN, CANADA): A CD survey of Dolden's electroacoustic music from 1983 through 1989. By digitally recording and manipulating acoustic instruments he comes up with new timbres and discreet compositions that have a sensuous depth and warmth not normally expected from efforts such as this. The long lines combined with a stunningly beautiful array of sounds create an aural environment that sucks you in and holds you. Somewhat reminiscent of Stockhausen but much more listenable. Highly recommended. (CD/WM)

**DR. JANET**, "Ten Years Gone" b/w "Starry Eyes" (Ringers Lactate, 21-29 35th St., Astoria, NY 11105): "Starry Eyes" you should already know, a power-pop classic of sorts, here executed with plenty of guitar effects and solid, fun-loving sound. The original "Ten Years Gone" is more of thr same, showcasing a sound rather than lyrics. he big news is that this is a supergroup of sorts, with members of Yo La Tengo, Skunk, Screaming Trees and Das Damen; they sound like they're having a whole lot of fun with this retro stuff, away from their normal gigs. (45/MG)

**DRONE**, "Deterrent" ($6 from PO Box 40122, Harbour Square Postal Outlet, Victoria, BC, V8W 3N3, CANADA): Grinding pounding sludge rock, with plenty of angry guitar work and shouted vocal harmonies. They do great near-gothic lyrics, but instead of singing about trolls or whatever they're into the terrors of modern life. There's a great piece using a voiceover from some anti-LSD scare tape, too. Heavy and rebellious. (T/MG)

**THE DROWNING BREATHING**, "Twist" ($4 from Scary Music, 324 Auburn, Monroe, LA 71201) Scary Music is the label, and it well describes the music of the Drowning Breathing: dark synth progressions, mutated sound, throbbing, pattering bass lines, and guiding snare beats, layered in reserve with voice oddly added, reminiscint of Paul Lemos or "Echoes" era Floyd. The more minimal pieces are best, as in the opening mood memory swath of "Murder," or "Distraction"'s sparse noises and beats with hellish chorus, different and more effective than the bass/beat work in a Wax Trax mold that becomes formulaic as the tape progresses. An interesting set of dark environments. (T/PMZ)

**DSORDNE**, "E' Un Sole" (l.1400 I.M.O. from Marco Milanesio, Via S. Andrea 20, 10048 Vinovo, Italy) Italian industrial/experimental music, with a narrative vocal style primarily by Christiana Bauducco. Mostly beat based, weaving synth patterns and sheened swells; though cliched, the use of noise, statics and sustained bell-like tones adds interest. The music is not limited to this form alone, and a number of other patterned and darkly moody approaches are employed. The forceful conviction and disembodied character of the narrative is the real appeal; sung in Italian, I can only focus on the effect, but that I found quite mesmerizing. (T/PMZ)

**DUDEMAN GUISE**, "Ethereal Poison" (New Flesh Tapes, 2837 NW 66th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73116): Moog improvisations that range from tedious to jarring. They bring in lots of electronic noises, screeches, endless repetition. Pretty much sludge, though it did make a good soundtrack to a computer arcade space game I was also evaluating. (T/MG)

**DUMT**, "Dumped Again" ($4 from PO Box 301, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-0301): Thrash punk with a sense of humor, great playing, and original ideas (like covering a Go-Gos song here). They've got an anti-drunk driving number, a downbeat one ("Go...just leave") and lots more. Good full sound and attitude galore. (T/MG)

**JOHN DUNCAN** and **ANDREW McKENZIE**, "Contact" ($20 *CASH* from Touch, 13 Osward Road, London SW17 7SS, UK): "A symphony for an infinite orchestra", combining esoteric found sounds, assorted static, shortwaves and tremendous amounts of electronic noise. The artists start out at a whisper and build the threatening levels (threatening to my speakers, anyhow) while providing a narcotic progression. Hard to stomach, but hard to turn off too. (CD/MG)

**DYOXEN**, "First Among Equals"(Cargo Records, 747-A rue Guy, Montreal, Que., H3J 1T6, CANADA): Thrash-pace heavy metal with lots of hardsteel technical edge to it and a predilection for instrumentals over lyrics; indeed, the words often seem like an afterthought, put in to fill out the song. Plenty of guitar wizardry here and nonstop assault that makes the album pass by even quicker than the 35-minute playing time would suggest. (CD/MG)

**JOHN EBERLY**, "Moke" (Mumbles, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208) John Eberly alone creates a hard rocking band in a Stooges vein, both vocally and instrumentally. For a one man band, Eberly creates a remarkably full sound, more an interactive unit than layered overdubs, and he handles both guitar/bass and drumming quite well. Things get sloppy at times, and the mix is messy, but the overall sound is active and hard biting. The Stooges take is a little strong, and he doen't always pull off the looseness he's trying to achieve, but it's a good loud rocking tape. (T/PMZ)

**BLAKE EDWARDS**, "Sound & Vice" ($4 *CASH* from 2537 Colgate Way, Riverside, CA 92507): A collection of experiments in music and noise. Blake throws pennies at his guitar strings, uses a computer to compose, records large slabs of ambient sound and shorter ones of pure noise, and otherwise plays around. Lasting value may be small, but as a documentary it's not bad. Comes with a booklet explaining what all this stuff is. (T/MG)

**EEL O.**, "Celluloid Kali" (Ecto Tapes, 5912 N.W. 62nd Terr., Oklahoma City, OK 73122): If I'd played this in my car I'd have thought the engine was going to explode. Ugly industrial thunk, the kind of tunes you'd find in the tape collection of a mean finger-eating cuisinart. Very hard to endure. (T/JR)

**THE ELECTRIC FERRETS**, "Into My Brain" (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507) The cover shows a hyperactive bunch of guys; the music on this 7" backs that up, and they mean it when they say 'play it loud!' Punk rock of an almost western flavor, the 4 short songs here present a thick sound of crunchy distortion and wah over upbeat punkish rhythms with an almost D.Kennedies vocal quality of hyperactive oddness and short blasts of high energy guitar solos. Humor is a part of their sound, which you might guess from the band name, but cuts like "Green Slime" help drive that home. On clear vinyl, a good record to play with a caffeine buzz. (EP/PMZ)

**ELEVEN SHADOWS**, self titled ($6 from Eleven Shadows, PO Box 17283, Encino, CA, 91416): Eleven Shadows is a tape put out by Ken Lee that exhibits amazing colors and mood shifts (has a tendency to soundtrack whatever you might be doing at the time of listening). Blends Indonesian, European, Indian, American and Eastern influences into a rare modern conglomoration of fluidity and tension. (T/RS)

**THE ELLEN JAMES SOCIETY**, "reluctantly we" (Daemon Records, PO Box 1207, Decatur, GA 30031-1207): A musically complex album featuring a multi-guitar attack, aggressive vocals from Cooper Seay, and backup playing from folks like the Indigo Girls' Amy Ray and Jane Scarpantoni, cellist from Tiny Lights. They pound away with unusual and sometimes jarring arrangements, and create lyrics that are run-on sentences of angst and wonder. A challenging and rewarding listen. (LP/MG)

**ERECTUS MONOTONE**, "Vertigogo" ($3.50 from Merge Records, PO Box 1235, Chapel Hill, NC 27514): This record runs at 45 on one side and 33 on the other, and that novelty is perhaps the best thing about it. The band can't seem to decide whether they want to play catchy pop juvenalia or swirly psychedelic fuzz, and so end up with some bastard noise that is neither. Lots of passion, not much product. (EP/MG)

**ROKY ERICKSON**, "Reverend of Karmic Youth" (Skyclad Records, 666 Valley Brook Dr., Middlesex, NJ 08846): If Dylan were fused with Jonathan Edwards they would find themselves in the body of Roky Erickson. Originally released in 1979, these are songs of 1960's protest: acoustic guitar, loving lyrics and social import (how he got "social and social political injustices" to rhyme I'll never know). Maybe I'm a curmudgeon, but it's hard to listen to "we are all meant to love one another" without feeling that Roky has been living in a time capsule somewhere near Woodstock. (T/CG)

**ETHNIC BEE CULTURE**, "Live Media Attacks, Vol.1" ($4.00 US/$5 other from Milenoise Cassettes, c/o Christopher, 1225 North East St #163, Anaheim, CA 92805) This collective presents spontaneous sound collages as recorded in the Anaheim studios of KUCI. "Ego Check" juxtaposes religious symbolism, political diatribes and sex over a strange b grade sci-fi sound track of oscillating tones and throbbing noise. Though suffering from inconsistent fidelity, this is fluid and interesting. The 2nd side is a more consistent panethnic approach crossing kalimba, chanting, and tribal beats with western religious cues of an almost reverential sense. This smoothly transitions to a carnival of machine and scraping sounds under Burroughs' drug war speech, ending as a "Train" of ambient machines and muted voices pulls away from this fulfilling work of sound. (T/PMZ)

**ETHNIC BEE CULTURES**, "Rockstars" ($4 from Mile Noise Cassettes c/o Christopher tm., 1225 N. East St. #163, Anaheim, CA 92805): Indistinguishable sources and samplings conglomorated into an industrial collage of sound that is so thick with layering that it actually becomes a veritable wall of noise, impossible to penetrate. Only when something is hurled above the basis does it become possible to catch the sound and identify it. (T/RS)

**EURO-K**, self-titled (Profile Records, 740 BroaDWay, New York, NY 10003): "The first rap group to emerge from Grand Rapids, Michigan" features an interracial trio of rappers plus DJ Shonski, whose scratching and looping are an important part of the sound. This is very laid-back rap, mellow sounds without the scary lyrics that have given the genre its bad-boy reputation, and as such it sounds pretty wimpy. A few tracks, like the remake of "Inner City Blues", rise above the muddle here. (LP/MG)

**EVICTION**, "The World is Hours Away" (Death Records, 18653 Ventura Blvd. #311, Tarzana, CA 91356): Nasty hard metal that pounds with unrelenting fury at unsuspecting ears. Fronted by the growling hulk of Todd Porter, the band paints a nasty picture of an American society in which violence, stupidity, and drunken idiocy are everyday occurences. There isn't any recipe for the future here, just a cynical hardcore view of the present. (T/MG)

**THE EXIS**, demo tape (Camaraderie Music, PO Box 403, Kenmore Sta., Boston, MA 02215): Three songs from a new "existential urban folk troupe", though there music sounds nearly as jazzy as it does folky to me. They're into horns and harmonies and socially conscious lyrics, and sound pretty classy already. I'm looking forward to the album from these bohos. (T/MG) [MA#1067]

**THE FALL**, "458489 A Sides" (Beggars Banquet, 274 Madison Ave Suite 804, NY, NY 10016) An A-sides compilation of The Fall's music from their '84-'89 Beggars Banquet years, this period represented a departure from the quirky early years into a smoother, more consistent pop format, though never conceding to commerciality. Through many personnel changes the sound and approach of The Fall has remained remarkably consistent, amazing considering how long The Fall has demonstrated their ability to write great melodies with excellent rhythms, strong hooks, and memorable, if often curiously odd, themes, sung and/or narrated in Mark Smith's characteristically quirky voice. For the unfamiliar or the long time fan, this is an excellent collection of some of the finest Fall. (T/PMZ)

**FAQ**, "Pre-pay" (Spikey Music, PO Box 2424, Kalamazoo, MI 49003): The first vinyl from the Foolish American Quartet, this one features a strange medley of punk and rock songs, customized with mandolin, flute, marimba and harpsichord. My favorite is "Aerobics In Japan", a thrash-pace song all about food and the wonders of the VCR with remote control. This is just one of a couple of tight songs about the problems of living the modern easy life. (LP/MG)

**FAT**, "Hit" (Recommended Distribution, 387 Wandsworth Rd, London SW8 2JL, UK) Fat is in the lineage of Everyman Band fusion pushing the limits of experimental trio work. The drumming is the most prominent aspect of this trio, a seething timpanic sound of deep toms, snares, and cymbals. Delays are listed for both the drummer and the bass player, accounting for the warm and sustained sound, while the guitar strikes and strokes his strings to create oriental sounds or twilight zone patterns, often building short repetetive cycles alone or with the bass. The music shifts and freely flows while still presenting a tight structure. Credit to Elliot Sharp for the superb sound his mixing provides. (LP/PMZ)

**FEARLESS IRANIANS FROM HELL**, "Foolish Americans" ($7 from Boner Records, PO Box 2081, Berkeley, CA 94702-0081): Just the sort of music your parents warned you not to listen to when you were a kid. Blasting morasses of punk with heavy duty guitars and barriers of drumming, with lyrics that pander to the American image of the Iranian terrorist. "We Own The World" is the hardest song here, a simple announcement that the USA is washed up, finished, kaput. (LP/MG)

**THE FEDS**, "You're Under Arrest" (Pomegranate/Trigon Records, 6837 Hanna Ave., Canoga Park, CA 91303): With all the brouhaha over the issues of artistic freedom, censorship and so forth, this little release proves extremely timely. "You're Under Arrest"—the A side of this two-song release—is a pleasant, catchy upbeat pop song whose light rhythm and deadpan delivery almost take away the sting of what the song is trying to say. The B side, "Dr. Schmendrick's Theme", continues along the same vein. (45/CS)

**THE FELLOW TRAVELLERS**, "No Easy Way" (Okra Records, 1992 N. High St., Columbus, OH 43201): Lorraine Morley, Martin Harrison and Jeb Nichols are the heart of this English/Irish/American folky album. There's a strong Irish lilt to some songs, backwoods vocals on others, with instrumentation high on the mandolin and guitar with fiddle and accordion putting in appearances as well. Overall a very fine ambience, a sound which is identifiably roots or country without being slavishly tied to a particular tradition. (LP/MG)

**FFLAPS**, "Malltod" (Probe Plus, 8-12 Rainford Gardens, Liverpool, L2 6PT, UK): A pop record entirely in Welsh. It's got wonderful female vocals that sound like they really ought to mean something even when they're stuff like "Gaeaf Yn Kragero". Bouncy, wild rhythms, intricate guitar work, all in all great fun and something to amaze your grandchildren with. (LP/MG) [MA#1068]

**FIFTEEN**, self-titled (Lookout Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Four songs of consistently strong, upbeat semi-sloppy garage rock that calls to mind the slap-happy early years of the Minneapolis guitar sound. But then they banish it in the wake of their own cheery, rowdy delivery. (45/CS)

**FILTH**, "Live The Chaos" (Lookout! Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Screaming bitter punk rock that seems destined to punch holes in your speaker cones. They don't like cops or suburbs or posers or people who hate themselves. "Get drunk, stay punk" says the label. Party, dudes. (EP/MG)

**THE FLAMING LIPS**, "In a Priest Driven Ambulance" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Repeated lyrical mentions of Jesus and the fact that all the songs come out at 3 minutes 26 seconds makes me wonder whether a Biblical reference is intended—perhaps Mark 3:26? Regardless, that's just the sort of trick the Lips *would* play with your head, as part of their acid-soaked, noise tyranny, open-ended songwriting. The band is as sharp as ever, moving from turgid chest-flattening tracks to mellow, thoughtful, scary ballads, and leaving enough confusion in their wake for a mountain of blotter paper. Another masterpiece. (LP/MG)

**FLOWER GANG**, "Guys With Glasses" (Boy Crazee Records, PO Box 803, Mansfield, MA 02048): Six songs of twangy jangly guitar and slightly flat (but oh so happy) vocals. They range from near hardcore to something like cowpunk—the latter most obvious on "Shit Fish", my favorite of the bunch. A band that doesn't take itself too seriously, but still puts out good music. (EP/MG)

**FLUID MASK**, "Flesh Sparks To The Beat" (Vision, PO Box 568, CH-4005, Basel, Switzerland) "To be played at maximum volume" is written all over the insert of this EP by these noise/beat experimenters. They're right- it is much better and more effective if played LOUD, as the furiously fast distortion beat set off with the gutterral, throaty vocals will leave you feeling like a nuclear explosion just happened. It could only be this good on black vinyl. (EP/RS)

**CHRIS FONDY**, "No Anesthesia" ($5 from Chris Fondy, 252 Miles Ave. Apt. 1, Syracuse, NY, 13210) Electric guitar with the capacity for driving beat ridden forcefulness and smooth flowing melodies is the basis of the tape. Sometimes accompanied by drum rhythms, vocal samples, and repetitive keyboard. Samples seem to revolve mainly around war and violence topics. How timely. (T/RS)

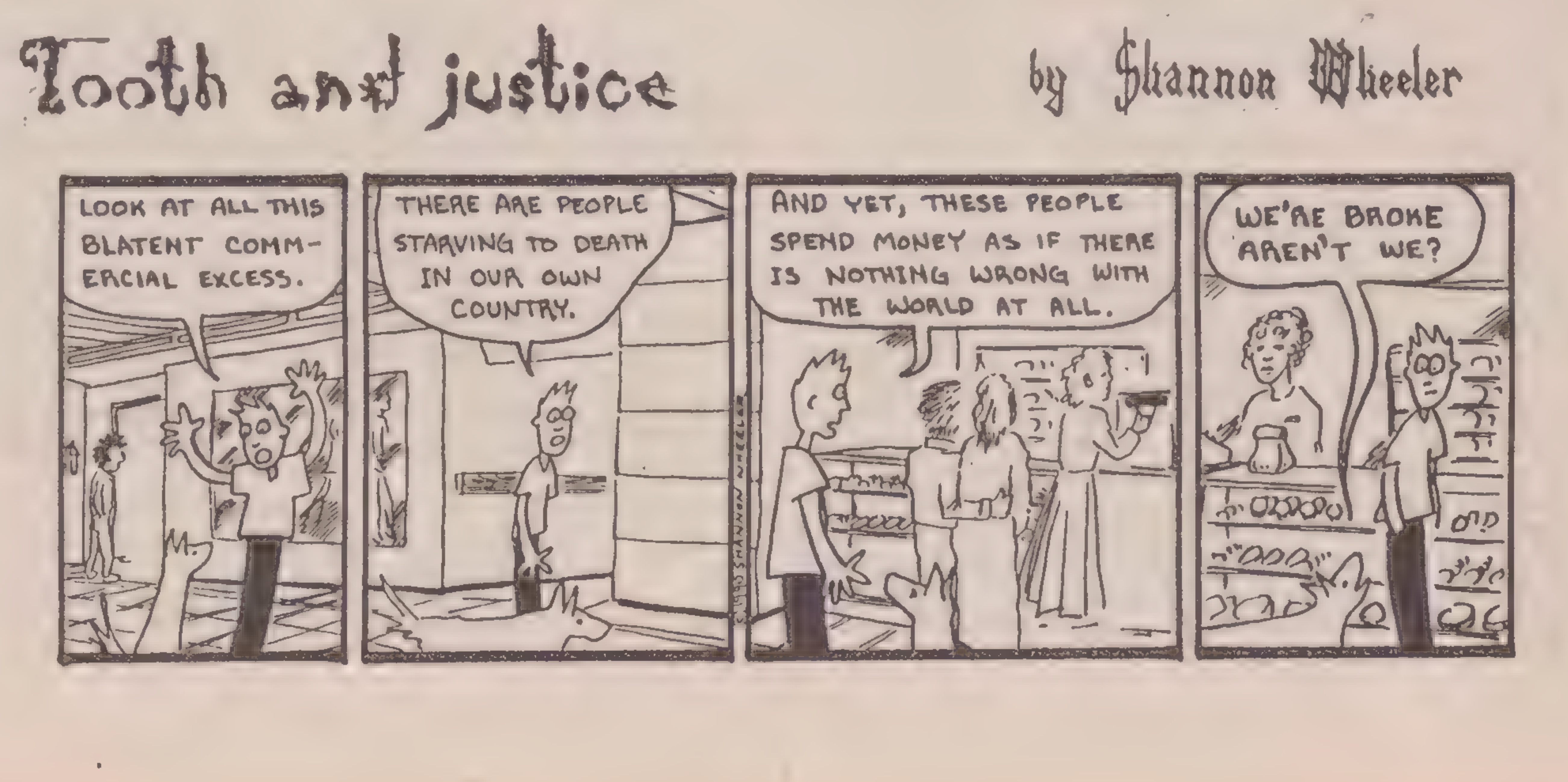
**NYLE FRANK**, "Comin' Round Again" ($8 from Centipede Productions, PO box 121832, Nashville, TN, 37212) Completely acoustic folk mostly guitar but with violin and piano serving quite well as background. All of the songs on this particular tape have the sense of having been written on the road in a narrative sense as the vocals are mostly reflective of childhood, college, past marriages and other relationships- something for everyone to relate to. (T/RS)

**SKIDD FREEMAN**, "The Mirror Cracked" ($5 from Bad Attitude Productions, PO Box 4281, East Lansing, MI 48826) Raw rock of harsh distortion, saturated bass and thrash drum machine, with strangled vocals on top of and between the noise. Things don't always gel, creating an angular dissonance that's uncomfortable at first listen; add the harshness of the recording quality and the results are often quite unpleasant. Though I didn't much like this, I did find myself interested in the openness of "The Things I've Done Before," or the approach of "Time Bomb." Not without potential, consistency in the music (and the packaging) is lacking. (T/PMZ)

**THE FRINGE**, "The Return of the Neanderthal Man" (Northeastern Records, PO Box 3589, Saxonville, MA 01701-0605): Solid modern jazz, recorded live, from the long-established Boston trio (percussion, bass and saxophone). Bouncing happily between free and strahgt-ahead jazz, and most places in between, The Fringe perform with the assurance and swing that only comes from long term musical collaboration. The result is truly progressive jazz that has not severed its ties with the past. (T/WM)

**FROG BALLS**, self-titled ($2 from 205 Meadowvale Dr, Cheswick, PA 15024) Noisy banging and thrashing hardcore with a twisted, rapid style. If you don't like the approach, you'll like the fact that most of the songs are under 1 minute, with 9 songs coming in under 10 minutes. The vocals are shouting, hoarse and muffled, yelling to be left alone, to live alone, that they stand alone, and to "keep your 'art', shove it up your ass." No delicate display of emotion here, but that's not their point, and between their name and the silly stickers included, they actually pass on a strange sense of humor. But it sure isn't pretty. (T/PMZ)

**FUEL**, self-titled (Rough Trade, 611 Broadway #311, New York, NY 10012): Positive sort of punk emanating from the community surrounding San Fran's Gilman Street Project. The sound is a bit quirky, depending on vocal harmonies and disharmonies as well as a heavy multi-guitar attack. Not pretty stuff,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AND YET, THESE PEOPLE SPEND MONEY AS IF THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH THE WORLD AT ALL.
WE'RE BROKE AREN'T WE?

but along with lyrics on songs like "Why Can't You See", pretty effective in a clash and clatter sort of way. (LP/MG)

**FUEL**, "Take Effect" (Lookout Records, PO Box 11374, Berkeley, CA 94701) Midway between Minor Threat and Fugazi, Fuel plays a heavy hardcore of shifting approach, tight grinding changes and harsh intelligent vocals inf a hoarse MacKaye mode. The "Fuel Hymn (activate)" that closes this 4 song single best conveys their message, which is a call to participate; this is emphasized in "Take Effect," a strong song that asks "Are you alive? Let it show...Take effect." There's a lot of energy behind the message of this band, and it works to make believable their commitment to personal integrity and involvement. (45/PMZ)

**FU MANCHU**, "Kept Between Trees" b/w "Bouillabaisse" ($3 from Slap a Ham, PO Box 843, San Francisco, CA 94101) I'll skip the vocals to concentrate on the music, which is the strength of this single. And strength is the word, with muscular guitar chords in a Frippish vein from the "Red" period, creating heavy progressions of thick, tight distortion followed by deep drumming and fat bass. Though the songs return to similar progressions, their layout is varied, demarked with bending notes and harmonically selected upper tones. The results are brutal, and the vocals fit the tone by droning in the background of undecipherable but presumably ugly images. (45/PMZ)

**THE FUNKLESS WONDERS**, "Neither the Look Nor the Attitude" (Lifelike Music, 2-12 Seaman Ave #5B, NY, NY 10034) Positive and silly, The Funkless Wonders are a happy band playing from a variety of pop attitudes; or perhaps as the title says, a lack of attitudes. Regardless, these are playful and tasteful songs based around the 60's but updated with modern tricks. High pitched vocals and silly asides, the melodic retro-pop of Dukes of Stratosfear comes to mind ("The Girl from the 6th Dimension"), along with goofy new wave rap ("Jack Kerouac's Hydrogen Bath") and a country spoof ("Savin' Myself Fer Elvis"). With skill and silliness mated this well, these Wonders have something wonderful to offer. (T/PMZ)

**THE FUZZTONES**, "Creatures That Time Forgot" (Skyclad, PO Box 666, Middletown, NJ 08846): A collection of demos, B sides and other rarities from one of the best modern psychedelic groups. From the opening fuzzy organ they deliver, interspersed here with interviews (WFMU, Rodney Bingenheimer, Larry King) and other spoken goodies. Some not-surprising rough spots, but with this sort of garage rock, that only adds to the charm. On glaring blue vinyl. (LP/MG) [MA#1069]

**GALAXIE 500**, "This Is Our Music" (Rough Trade, 611 BroaDWay #311, New York, NY 10012): An evolutionary step for Galaxie 500, this album is perhaps lusher than their past work but still recognizably in the same softspoken, melodic vein. "Moody" is the word that springs to mind, with Kramer at the production controls layering their pop guitar attack to good effect. Gentle, quiet pop for the empty hours in your life. (CD/MG)

**GANGGREEN**, "Another Wasted Night" (Taang! Records, PO Box 51, Auburndale, MA 02166): If you think getting drunk and making raucous fun of other people is a way to have a good time, you're probably already a Ganggreen fan. This record features covers of "Voices Carry" and "Sold Out Alabama" (well, that's how they put it) as well as other covers and a few originals. The band is raucous and sloppy, shambling through 16 tracks in a bit over half an hour, and probably still appeal to those who had to use fake ID to get in to see them in the first place. (CD/MG) [MA#1070]

**GARLIC BOYS**, "E.P." (Public Bath Records, PO Box 2134, Madison, WI 53701) Fast paced hard driving Japanese hardcore with strangle/yelled vocals and metal tinged solos. Supposedly the songs are funny, but the language barrier only translates angry and somewhat strange vocals, particularly in interactions of "The Way of the Fat Boy." Other titles are "Yokozuna," dedicated to sumo wrestlers, "Mad Asshole" and "Smegmania," which is repudetly related to their infrequent bathing habits. Rude Japanese humor-core; the next big thing from Japan?... (EP/PMZ)

**GEKO**, self-titled ($5 from PO Box 481051, Los Angeles, CA 90048): Carrie and Sarah have been incubating this release for a long time now, in between drawing comics and making fun of Gothic kids. They call it "industrial heartbreak", and it puts together guitar and percussion and eerie vocals to form heavy layers of atmosphere, thick as the smoke in the clubs where they probably play. The lyrics and general feel left me real edgy, almost paranoid, as my brain tried to digest a meal loaded with new ways of looking at the world. (T/MG) [MA#1071]

**BOB GELDOF**, "The Vegetarians of Love" (Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Geldof's second solo recording employs both Celtic melodies and Cajun dance music for an expansive work. Geldof's songs seem more personal on this outing, exploring failed relationships as well as de rigeur global concerns. His approach works in spots but not in others: "A Gospel Song" captures perfectly the longing for a relationship the narrator wishes never ended; but other songs, such as "Voyager 2," are too sprawling to succeed. One of the highlights is "The Great Song of Indifference," an upbeat sea ditty that highlights Geldof's talent for creating a controlling irony. The album is by turns excellent and mediocre, but the high points make it incredibly worthwhile. (T/DW)

**GERSTEIN**, "Hang the D-Evil" (l.7000 IMO from Marco Milanesio, Via S. Andrea 20, 10048 Vinovo, Italy) That Gerstein may be an amalgamation of Gershwin and Hammerstein gives an indication of the kind of music that Maurizio Pustianaz makes: piano compositions in a theatrical and somewhat pretentious style of grandiose melodies and repetetive constructions. Most of the compositions are solo piano, vocals at times added by Pustianaz, singing in a thick tongued and harsh style; Laura Manzin also adds vocals on one piece. Though there are moments of melodic and textural interest, a choppy and awkward sense pervades, leaving a feeling of angularity rather than the emotional content one believes Pustianz is attempting to convey. (T/PMZ)

**GIRL TROUBLE**, "Stomp and Shout and Work it on Out!!!!" (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): Covers of classic teen dance music from the Sixties, from a band still following in those same footsteps. With a mix of guitars, some sax, bass, drums, keyboards and vigor, they rip

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MA# 1040

off versions of "Hey Mrs. Jones" (a 1962 hit). "Louie Louie", "Little Sally Tease" and a few others. A fun tribute to a past era in music. (LP/MG)

**GOD'S ACRE**, "Ten Gospel Greats" (Wax Trax Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): A MiDWestern grungefest that takes a long while to build up steam. Once it does, though, it's near brilliant; the B side of the record is an incredible morass of noise, mania, strange vocals, overindulgent guitar noodling and ever-building tension. But it's definitely the sort of thing I think of as "gospel" music, unless you're a card-carrying member of the Church of Rock and Roll. (LP/MG) [MA#1072]

**GONG**, "Gasamerica Today" ($5 from 1230 20th St., Huntsville, TX 77340): A collection of bits from Daevid Allen's twenty or so years in the music business. Mostly this has a classic hippie feel to it: folky ideas, audience involvement, rip-roaring music, fast changes. Includes some interview as well as live and studio material. (T/MG)

**THE GREAT KAT**, "Beethoven On Speed" (Roadrunner Records, 225 Lafayette St., Suite 709, New York, NY 10012 ); It's mildly intriguing that a Juilliard-trained classical violinist should become a heavy metal vixen with all the trappings. Inspired to pick up a guitar after seeing Judas Priest on MTV, this is exactly what Katharine Thomas, a.k.a. the Great Kat, has done. Yes she's a fast, incredibly proficient metal guitarist, but the novelty wears thin when her gruff screeching vocals dominate. Her original material, saturated with narcissism and trite references to Satan, shows little originality. Speed metal reworkings of *Flight of the Bumblebee* and Beethoven's *Fifth* are satisfying only in that they are exactly what you'd expect. (T/KF)

**GREEN DAY**, "Slappy" (Lookout! Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Bouncy, perky, well, call it slap-happy punkish NorCal music. "409 In Your Coffeemaker" is a great title, and it's a cool song too, about a kid dazed by the whole world and figuring out what to do next. A three-piece, skittish sound, sort of choppy, that exudes listenability. Green swirl vinyl, too. (EP/MG)

**JEFF GREINKE**, "Changing Skies" (Multimood Records, Södra Allégatan 2, 41301 Göteborg, SWEDEN): Languid synthesized music which also includes carefully selected traditional instrumentation, a solo project from composition to performance. Greinke's pieces creep up on the listener, spinning imaginary worlds and building complex structures that are quite beautiful in places. An understated but well-crafted album. (CD/MG)

**GURU JOSH**, "Infinity" (RCA Records, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): First there was dance music, then there was machined synthetic electronic dance music, now there's Guru Josh, who puts the live presence back in with a stripped-down selection of technology and a peppy point of view. The live cover of "Popcorn" is a high point, sophisticated and different, loaded with hooks, good to move to. No heavy intellectual stuff here, just rhythms and sounds to get you dancing. (CD/MG)

**GUTTERBOY**, self-titled (DGC Records, 9130 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069): It's nice, it's done well, it's crafted with style, and it's delivered with professionalism. But it lacks distinction. Instead Gutterboy tries too hard to be too much for too many. You've got hard rockers, soft ballads, a touch of C&W in the rock, some AOR pop thrown in...imagine a mix of Don Henley, John Cougar and Simon & Garfield... and what comes across to me is a talent for writing, but a lack of talent in conveying it. I guess what I miss is passion, a strength of conviction in the music. You know, the kind of thing that takes even a simple song and blows it away. But in an age of "safe sex" I guess "safe rock" is to be expected. (T/CS)

**HAGATHA**, self-titled (AIR, 285 W. Broadway #300, New York, NY 10013): Don't let the name fool you; this bunch is not into metal mania or hardcore parent-baiting. They're more like campy pop, all low tones and nifty arrangements and tongue-in-cheek vocals, plus, according to their clips, a great stage presence. Dreamy spacy music that still moves at a good clip, Hagatha is a band that deserves to be heard. (T/MG)

**HALFWAY TO EDDIE'S**, "Flesh, Blood and Linoleum" (Probe Plus, 8-12 Rainford Gardens, Liverpool, L2 6PT, UK): This band is as odd and charming as its name. A six-piece with a pop-blues-Cajun sound, they perform lovely ballads, agonizingly downbeat heartbreak songs, and even some music that would go well with a carnival. Lots of fun, loaded with catchiness and hummabillity, and an import album that's worth jumping through a few hoops to get. (LP/MG)

**EIRIK HAMMEN**, "More Stories From the Land of Milk and Honey" )$2 from 1810 Ashland #6, St. Paul, MN 55104): Dark commentaries on "the land of milk and honey" with a driving techno beat for those who can still dance after digesting some sullen lyrics. A fine one-man effort—gives New Age a kick in the butt. (T/KL)

**HAPPY FAMILY**, "Lucky" (50 Skidillion Watts, 5721 SE Laguna Ave., Stuart, FL 34997-7828): Exuberant good time rock fronted by the expressive voice of Cindy Widner. With the legendary Spot producing, the band sounds like they're having a heck of a lot of fun as they move from simple love songs ("She's Your Trashcan") to deep philosophical discussions ("Nothing to do With Anything") to just plain bashed-out dancing music ("Big Ass On Fire"). More good things from Austin. (LP/MG)

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**THE HATERS**, "Characterized" (Banned Productions, P.O. Box 323, Fremont, CA 94537): Five lengthy excerpts from The Haters, live—which, I gather from an account in the accompanying 32-page booklet, is the only way to experience them. This release seems to be aimed at aficionados of The Haters' energetic, destructive noise performances. (The audiences on the tape seem to be having a good time, so there must be quite a few satisfied customers.) The booklet contains a selected list of past performance dates, a discography. the aforementioned account (of a Hater's gig in Victoria, B.C.), and an oblique interview with Haters member blackhumour. As a stand-alone sound experience, "Characterized" is fairly neutral. I wanted to *see* some of that cheerful smashing and rending, not just hear it. But if The Haters come to *my* town, you better believe I'll be there. They seem like lots of fun. (T/KS)

**HAWKWIND**, "Space Bandits" (Roadrunner Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): 21 years later, these space rockers are still turning out swooping, shattering, bombastic songs, heavy with science fictional references and social action—"Black Elk Speaks" being the second song on this album. Dinosaurs, to be sure, but still fun to listen to, entertaining and a whole lot more together than a lot of today's groups. (T/MG)

**HEADS UP!**, "Soul Brother Crisis Intervention" (Emergo, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): Punchy vocals with some rap influence (among other things, this means that you can understand lyrics without a cheat sheet for the first time in the past 20 years or so), over funk guitar meets metal crossover rock—oh, and throw in some hardcore too. Fun music, loaded with danceableness, not too heavy, cleanly produced, good at what it does. (CD/MG) [MA#1073]

**HELLCATS FROM OUTER SPACE**, "The Possession of Dr. Zachary Smith" (Classy Records, c/o J. Masters, PO Box 1149, Melrose, MA 02176) Grungy rock with an eye to outer space, this trio sings about "Going Up to Uranus" or "High on Venus," all based around Lost in Space themes. Dark dirty guitar riffs with wah fuel the tunes, with rolling bass lines and straight drumming, an almost rockabilly flavor coming from "Cruisin' Round the Galaxy." The title track starts and stops with overdubs from Lost in Space, integrating with the sleeve photo of Smith and Robot in an argumentative state. A novelty, yes, but amusingly so, somehow managing to lodge in my head for a couple of days. 'Here comes the doctor...' (7"/PMZ)

**HELLWITCH**, "Syzygial Miscreancy" ($10 from Wild Rags Records, 2207 W. Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640): Technically beautiful thrash metal, with each note distinct yet tripping along at an incredible rate. Pat Ranieri is definitely a guitarist to watch, and this release is definitely one to crank up and quiver to. (LP/MG)

**HERMANOS GUZANOS**, "Back in the Alley" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): A jocular and somewhat lush hodgepodge of sorts that bumps about from a pop-gone-mad vantage point. Freeish jazz and rock mechanisms become personalized here in ways not dissimilar to the Baiza clan. Lots of sounds that shine best when the silliness factor is lowest. (T/JCM)

**MIKE HERSCH**, "Worthy Is The Lamb" (Mike Mike Medleys, PO Box 362, Herndon, VA 22070): Guitar instrumentals that feature fast, clever and innovative playing, while avoiding the overblown excesses that characterize some such albums (though the orchestral ending *is* a bit inflated). Mike is firmly in the rock tradition, away from heavy metal and pop, and does some amazing things with his fingers and strings. (T/MG) 1099

**HESTER PRYNE**, self-titled ($6 from Flush Records, PO Box 1050, Richmond, CA 94802):A double seven-inch record set of this Seattle band screaming their way through 8 short tunes. Lead vocalist Burt is of the "bleaughaawaugh" school of styling, but fortunately (or unfortunately, considering some songs like "Lost Little Girl" there's a lyric sheet included. The music is jangled disjointed quick and loud, a blast of Northwestern neo-psychedelic punk. (2 45/MG)

**HEXX**, "Watery Graves" ($7 from Wild Rags Records, 2207 W. Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640): Great cover art on this one, a grinning sadist cyborg in front of a batch of waterlogged corpses. The title cut actually goes with the picture, too, with an intense blast of metal mania. A very flashy release, well-planned and executed, from a band that seems to know exactly where it wants to go, and is determined to get there at top volume. (EP/MG)

**JOHN HINDS**, "Blue Intensity" ($4 from Omni Sonic, PO Box 786, Millbrae, CA 94030) "Blue Intensity" well describes the journey this tape takes its listeners on. From a Hendrix hard rock instrumental to the extremes of experimentation, Hinds and drummer/percussionist brother Peter work with well defined structures and create a number of their own. Hinds starts with rock, and returns to his obvious love of that music repeatedly. But between are heard pieces of impressionist ambience with backward guitar, freely spontaneous and frantic jams, and quirky percussion and string compositions. One moment a moody backdrop, the next a technically challenging exposition, this is an intensely fascinating tape. (T/PMZ)

**THE HITMEN**, "Smashface" (Green Monkey Records, PO Box 31983, Seattle, WA 98103): Multi-stylized rock that runs from energetic guitar riffs to quirky vocal harmonies to funk and ska influenced beats. The band is tough to characterize, but in a band-heavy town like Seattle that may be an advantage; their sound is clean, crisp and distinctive. Reckless rocking fun. (LP/MG)

**HIRN MIT EI**, "Muskel '89" (Trade + postage from Axel Rossler, Hauptstrasse 42, 6365 Rodheim, Germany) Starts off with live cuts from this group that sound almost like a fast paced grundge with a hardcore bent. Yelping vocals over the background of the usual show audience noise and the distorted tinny effect of a poorly recorded live tape actually make it an endearing member to any collection although I would eventually like to hear this group out of the studio. Like any band of this nature, the show was probably a blast to be at. (T/RS)

**HITTING BIRTH**, "Hits of Birth" (PO Box 4112, Portland, OR 97208): Clanging bashing ritual dissection music, improvisationally dark and edgy. Exotic industrial with lots of percussion and wild portentous vocals, the tape hints at a stage show of awesome proportions. Good news for those into headaches and self-exploration. (T/MG)

**HIVE**, self-titled (Recommended Distribution, 387 Wandsworth Road, London SW8 2JL, ENGLAND): Strangely beautiful music that brings together dreamy settings, accordion, turntable manipulations, harmonium, wild percussion, sampling and a batch of other instruments, plus eerie vocal harmonies. They can be abrasive one track and lulling the next, partaking of many parts of the musical spectrum. A very different sort of album, experimental without being self-conscious about it. (LP/MG)

**HOLY TERRORS**, demo tape (Esync Ocular Interchange, PO Box 380621, Miami, FL 33238-0621): Melodic rock with a core of ex-members from Boston's Inside Outburst. They play tightly, with a presence that reminds a bit of Til Tuesday, although without quite such amazing vocals. But the music itself is dense and wonderful, and worth hearing more of. (T/MG)

**MARTIN HOWARD** "Shefa CX75" (from 34 Bassingham Road, Wembley HAO 4RL Middlesex, UK): New Age music channelled through a methedrine crystal. Doesn't quite work as the spacey pings and ambient hums of this genre, insofar as they are fun, are so by virtue of their being sugary. Adding dissonance and splicing in spoken-word fragments works as well as soy sauce on frosted flakes. Interesting idea though. (T/JR)

**HUGE**, "Huge Two" (Whoosh Records, 12130 Mitchell Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066): Bluesy rock music with some punk touches here and there. With only four songs and a lowball quality, this is more a demo than a release, but there's some good material on it. "Night Guard", in particular, makes good use of the late-hours feel of blues progressions in addition to a pounding, coming-down-hard chorus. (T/MG)

**HUMAN DRAMA**, This Tangled Web" (Triple X, 6755 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 284, Hollywood, CA 90028): On this new EP the band has pulled back some from the work they did on last year's "Feel." Here they're taking a more low-key approach, and it works equally as well. There's some misty overtones of bands like Echo and the Bunnymen...but while the music is dark in a way, it's still lighter and more street oriented in attitude than the British Echo-style bands that've come out. There's more of a street- or people-oriented focus. The attitude is more direct. (EP/CS)

**HUNGER FARM**, "Dante's Escape Route ep" (Nemesis c/o Zed Records, 1940 Lakewood Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90815) A strong eastern melody opens an excellent release from this impressive band. The basis is hardcore, though advanced, with a seethingly full sound of incredibly active, almost tribal drumming, muscular bass work and rich effected guitar punctuating short blasts. The vocals are emphatic in a Fugazi style, though cleaner, a harsh tone taken as suits the songs. The pointed "Abortion Stories" best describes their sound, the anger against the drunk all-American boy who rapes a 13 year old- "she didn't want to party down... she was just a piece of meat"- justified and succinctly described. Focused and energetic. (EP/PMZ)

**HUNTING SLEEVE**, "Tillin' Up The Ground" (PO Box 181, Boston, MA 02205): This Midwest rock band, despite the transplantation to Boston and addition of some sax and funk, still sounds pretty much like a Midwest rock band. On a few tracks they do get moving, but for the most part this is the typical sound of country meets rock, music you can play when the tractors are gone. Give them a few more years in the lounges and check back for progress. (CD/MG) [MA#1074]

**ICONOCLAST** "City of Temptation"(Fang Records, PO Box 652, Stuyvesant Sta., New York, NY 10009): Strange but appealing music from multi-instrumentalists and vocalists Leo Ciesa and Julie Joslyn. Complex textures consisting of acoustic and electronic sounds (all performed live) frame music that incorporates both tightly performed ensembles and improvisations. The first cut, "Downtown Scene", made me skeptical of both chops and intent but I was won over by the strengths of nearly everything else on the recording. The imaginative percussion performances of Ciesa are especially fun. (CD/WM)

**IGNEOUS IT**, "Igneous It Live" ($4 from PO Box 901, New Paltz, NY 12561): Four-piece new wavish improvisational stuff, with the tunes of the trombone reverberating heavily in memory. The pace and interest is uneven here, with some unfortunate dead spots interspersed with more manic sections, approaching a sort of punk-jazz aesthetic. Promising but as yet unfulfilled. (T/MG) [MA#1075]

**i IS ANOTHER**, "Pray For Dada" ($2 from Adam Douglas, AMS Media Communications, 44 S. Palomar Dr., ReDWood City, CA 94062) Acid house music "reenlisting" the Dada movement "to destroy the conventions of a materialistic and pretentious, not to mention pompous society." Remixing of many popular House standards with clips, mixes, and beats melded together by D.J. Third i, creating a new art form that jostles the listener into a grooving movement. Political. Harsh. Well-meaning. (T/RS)

**ILLEGITIMATE SONS OF JACKIE O**, "Here Come The Sons" ($3 from Sound Noise Music, PO Box 472084, Tulsa, OK 74147): Crashing aggressive rock, sloppy and full of verve. These guys are actually pretty good in a bulldozing way, trampling the musical terrain as they pound their instruments to rubble. A hot cover of "John Brown's Body" and the extended "God Bless the Furry Little Animals" are highlights here, in amongst songs about destroying society like "Kill the Metermaid". (T/MG) 1076

IMPETIGO, "Ultimo Mundo Canibale" ($10 from Wild Rags Records, 2207 W. Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640): Nasty grindcore music with lyrics about mutilation and demolishing things and "Bitch Death Teenage Mucous Monster From Hell". At least, that's what the lyric sheet says; the actual vocals are more like "wugaaaabuhduhwaaah!", which goes fine with the deranged guitar playing. (LP/MG)

INSECT FEAR, "Crease" (Manufacture, PO Box 37220, Tallahassee, FL 32315-7220): Deep and full throbbing power trio rock. Of the four cuts here, my favorite is the brief and morbidly-named instrumental "Autoerotic Asphyxiation", a compelling melody strummed low and forcefully. "Ibis" puts in some skittery vocals and a more abrupt playing style, roaming around without really looking for a groove to get lost in. (EP/MG)

INXS, "X" (Atlantic, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Ten years on and still going strong, this Australian band brings hot pop/rock (not to mention a heavy-duty presskit) to the fore again with this album. Sweet sounds, lots of harmonies, lush arrangements—the sort of thing that undaring college radio stations dote on. It doesn't push any barriers, but it does a darned good job of providing light music to dance to. (T/MG)

IVY LEAGUE, "Gub" ($3 from Shakefork Records, 513 Prairie Ave, Downers Grove, IL 60515) Illinois 4 song hardcore ep, the first side the harder edged of the two, "Inside" a Minor Threat like song, though slower and lacking the bite. "Trampled Gardens" starts the second side more melodically, though evolving into shouting, with a fairly lyric chorus. Overall the sound is subdued, as though the band was holding back, and the lyrics fail to focus on anything particularly. The playing isn't bad, the bass work standing out, and the cartoon opening and closing, cut up insert, and clear red vinyl add interest. Needs more purpose and punch though. (EP/PMZ)

JACK BREWER BAND, "Rockin' Ethereal" (New Alliance Records, PO Box 1389, Lawndale, CA 90260): The guys here seem to have a reasonable amount of talent to spread around, Jack himself being X-Saccharine Trust and others doing a decent job on the rest of the traditional instruments. But there's no overall personality, no spark, just bland rock songs. The sort of band you want on stage in a bar to cut the background noise, but not to listen to. (LP/MG)

JANDEK, "Someday in the Snow" (Corwood Industries, PO Box 15375, Houston, TX 77220) Jandek's music is a personal, meandering Hendrix influenced blues guitar with minimal percussion of a timpanic quality and wandering vocals, both a wistful female voice and Jandek's own, sounding something like a doped Hendrix. There's a real homemade quality to the results, from the homely cover art and thin vinyl to the quick songs fades and dull miking techniques. And yet the album holds an experimental and endearing quality, even at times invoking thoughts of Nurse with Wound. I have to respect someone who releases as much as Jandek has, independently following his instinct and interests. (LP/PMZ)

JASMINE SUNRISE, "Teach This Monster" ($4 from Riot Now Sounds, 4615 Russell Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90027): Don't be fooled by the delicate name! Quite a variety of sounds ranging from psychedelic thrash to hard rock meanderings. Muddy live recording covering almost too broad of a range, as if they haven't quite found their niche yet. Side one is more garage rock oriented with screaming guitars and unintelligible lyrics. Side two has a Yes quality to it: moody and listenable. (T/KL/CG)

JELLYFISH KI$$, "Animal Rites" (Shimmy-Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10016): Endless near-whining guitar clatterings that loop around and pound mercilessly at the ears, in search of something to call music. Imagine what would have happened if someone had handed Ravi Shankar an electric guitar instead of a sitar. Mind-numbing. (LP/MG)

JESUS CHRUST, "Blasphemy" ($3.50 from Fudgeowrthy,, 8 Stevin Dr., Woburn, MA 01801): 18 songs on one 7" green vinyl platter, from a band that takes both rock music and God in vain. They play a heavy-duty stenchcore, sometimes lapsing into ponderosity, others seeing how fast they shred the guitar strings. Their lyrics come entirely from choice sections of the Bible—words about adulterers and crucifixation and so on. Sure to offend. (EP/MG)

JETHRO BODINE EXPERIENCE, (New Flesh, 2837 NW 66th St., Oklahoma City, OK 73116): This rollicking release takes a gutsy approach to hard country rock. A trio, the band kicks out with a deep grainy vocal style, excellent guitar fills, and a tight interactive approach. The seven songs on the tape are about women, drinking and other bad boy attitudes, all covered in a hard rocking, raw driving style. Technically able, tasteful and ballsy at the same time; Jethro Clampett never seemed this tough on TV. (T/PMZ)

THE JOHN BLACK EXPERIENCE, "Ridin' With Johnny Black" (Skyclad Records, PO Box 666, Middlesex, NJ 08846): "With Special Guest Kimona 117", this is an album of garage tributes with hard edges. There's a grungy cover of "Boots Are Made For Walking", as well as the contemplative "Angel of the Night" and the powerful "Riding With Johnny Black" here. Modernized motorcycle-movie music. (LP/MG)

JOSEF K, "Young and Stupid" and "The Only Fun In Town: Sorry For Laughing" (Les Temps Modernes; US distribution by Wax Trax, 1659 N. Damen Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): A two-CD retrospective that includes everything this band ever put out—singles, an unreleased debut (previously bootlegged), a couple of albums. Josef K was a Scottish pop/rock band, with gangly rhythms and a curious funky sense of composition. They were big in the mid-80s and no doubt all sorts of groups can cite them as an influence, or at least co-conspirator. Overall this isn't a very coherent body of work, bringing in some punk influence here, some pop there, and overall jangling the guitars along to bring in some continuity. For the diehard fan of UK music. (2CD/MG)

JUMBALASSY, "Military Man" b/w "Brown Eyes" (177 Telegraph Rd. #453, Bellingham, WA 98226): An eight-piece Northwest band which, led by Trinidadian singer Andy O, churns out a laid-back reggae dance music. Their attraction is largely in the horns, which come in loud and clear, leading the way and intercutting with Andy's voice. Nothing really exceptional here, just a pair of solid extended dance tunes. (EP/MG)

KAPOTTE MUZIEK, "Real Time Music" (Midas Music/Jacques, Postbus 91, Asten, Nederland): Actually, I'm just guessing about the title and *auteur* of this 3-song 7" from the Netherlands. Maybe "kapotte muziek" translates to "real time music" and it's all a Midas Music production—the packaging (which is otherwise quite satisfactory, with stark superimposed graphics and attractive/rugged/high-impact plastic sleeve) is kind of vague. The music itself is industrial squealing and grinding, with an emphasis on assembly- line repetition. Side B features a long, subdued percussion track, and Side A gets into teeth-rattling feedback. The titles for all pieces are encoded serial numbers or something to that effect ("RTM 27XCA", for example). An obtuse, but interesting, piece of vinyl. (7"/KS)

LANCE KAUFMAN, "They Dug Up Elvis!" b/w "Peaceful Amazon Village" (Dep. 114, PO Box 59704, San Francisco, CA 94159) "They dug up Elvis and made him sing again." So screams Kaufman over a rolling bass line and a cacophonous blast of guitar, sax and Lanceotron (?). The throat ripping vocals are similar to those of Laughing Hyenas, except for the Elvis moans and uh-huhs that punctuate the center of this raucous tune. In complete contrast, "Peaceful Amazon Village" is a latin groove with narration describing a simple rain forest village of peaceful beauty, until a reverbed "Rain Forest Wrecking Crew" usurps the relaxed environment. A novel bit of oddness on grey marbled vinyl. (45/PMZ)

THE KEN, "Sleepless" (2301 A Trailside Dr., Austin, TX 78704): Not purposefully commercial, but I wouldn't be surprised if they had a commercial hit here. Very talented guitar work, only soft distortions, mixed with lead singer Robert Kraft's husky voice. Songs with socially conscious intent, but not whiny. In looking for comparisons, I can only say it has a Hothouse Flowers feel to it—in fact, there is a decidedly Irish feel to some tracks, especially "Suffer Children" with accompanying pan pipe. (T/CG)

KILLTECH, "Inc." (ERL Records, 418 Madison Ave., Albany, NY 12210): With this release ERL moves from vinyl to CD but keeps their tradition of noisy grungy bands. Killtech is 24 tracks of sludge, rock that tears away at your teeth like no-anaesthesia dentistry, screams and mistreated guitars. An environment of chaotic noise built on a foundation of rock. (CD/MG) [MA#1078]

KING DIAMOND, "The Eye" (Roadracer Records, 225 lafayette St., New York, NY 10012): This metal concept album gets big points for daring to take on the censors *mano a mano*. It's got crucified infants, tortured young women, drugs and other grody topics—but they all come out of well-documented *Christian* history. And just to rub it in, they thank Anton Lavey prominently. Musically, they're siren-sharp and heavy throughout, with plenty of pounding energy and a flair for the dramatic. (T/MG)

KINGHORSE, self-titled (Caroline Records, 114 W. 26th St., New York, NY 10001): This band starts side one with a hard-driving, fast and ominous sound, and doesn't let up until the end of side two. Sounds like the drummer's hands must be ready to fall off, and singer Sean Garrison wears his throat raw with screaming (there's a parental advisory on the lyrics, but I don't know why, because they are 90% unintelligible). A bit exhausting to listen to, but great at high volumes. (LP/MG)

KING SUN, "Righteous But Ruthless" (Profile Records, 740 Broadway, New York, NY 10003): Heavy duty politicized rapping from a member of the Five-Percent Nation of Islam. King Sun is a slick guy, politically astute and musically aware as well. He talks to youth about being Black and proud, about doing better in life, about avoiding culture that exists just to numb the mind. Meanwhile these crazy horns and heavy beats go on behind his voice, moving the mind into a new plane of understanding. Rap that's not pap. (LP/MG)

KING SWAMP "Wiseblood" (Virgin, 9247 Alden Dr., Beverly Hills, CA, 90210) Soul filled simplistic rock beat but gutsy by these British musicians that are so influenced by America. Almost a bluesy feeling locked deep within it, possibly a fascination with Clapton especially in "One Step Over the Line". On the outer cover of the tape is a label,"Censorship is UNAmerican"- ending with a plea to register to vote and support the first amendment. (T/RS)

KITCHENS OF DISTINCTION, "Love is Hell" (Second Vision, 5 Crosby St., New York, NY 10013): English pop which first appeared via the excellent One Little Indian label, now imported to America but with an album cover that's still distinctively English. The music is deeper, more melancholy than one finds in most current Brit-pop bands, a bit reminiscent of Lush. Definitely worth a closer look. (LP/MG)

KMFDM, "Naive" (Play It Again Sam Records, 1659 N. Damen Ave. Chicago, IL 60647) Slightly lighter than their last album. The dance beat isn't quite as emphasized, although the deep bass groove is still plainly evident.

Softly grating vocals rolled out from the back of the throat rumble over the grinding guitar work and the danceable synth melodies. Definitely good alternative dance music for the clubs or just as good to get your shopping done to. (T/RS)

KODE IV, "Possessed" (Cargo, PO Box 9055, 7741 Drury Ln., La Jolla, CA 90238-9055): Jarring heavy-duty neo-industrial funk that depends on sampling and looping sounds from dozens of cultures and sources, with vocals from Eastern to opera. Densely packed with synthesized riffs and incredible madness, this is a disk for future cyborgs to dance and turn on to. (LP/MG)

KRAZY HAUS, "Play By Numbers" ($4.85 from Lizard Lips Music, 636 Louise Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48103): Bizarre wiggly- and distorted-vocal pop music, something you might expect a garage band to play after an afternoon of too many classic LIFE magazines and rum and coke. Some of it goes on far too long, too, in the best garage jam tradition. Reminds me of the underground music scene from Ohio a few years back, when it seemed there was a limitless amount of twisted pop music in the air. (T/MG) [MA#1079]

RAGNAR KVARAN, "Standing Like Shadows" (PO Box 3431, Ann Arbor, MI 48106): Aggressive guitar pop crossed with quirky art rock. The melodies are good—this is one of those cases where the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. No one song or melody line stands out, but the entire release is very enjoyable, and the vocals have a lot of character to them. I kept thinking of this offbeat collection of Wall of Voodoo, Rank n File, Talking Heads and Drivin' and Cryin'. I dunno—you may not think so but it worked for me. (LP/CS)

L7, "Smell the Magic" (Sub Pop, 1932 12st Avenue, Suite 1103, Seattle, WA 98101): This is the best kind of crazed rock music for crazy rock fans. It's screaming, crazy, yowling, howling, grunge, no-holds barred, total abandonment, glam, slam, garage shriek rock. It's all over the place, spreading and moving like some elctrified amoeba—as if your stereo were a scientific slide, your speakers the microscope and you the researcher who's made the discovery. Take it all in, revel in it. You won't be disappointed. (EP/CS)

LACH, "Contender" (Gold Castle Records, 3575 Cahuenga Blvd. W #470, Los Angeles, CA 90068): Anti-folk from the guy who started the movement and is now doing his best to mythologize his own position as its premiere proponent. While the songs here are folky and punky and cutting and politically active and lyrically intense, I don't think he's all that much better than Michelle Shocked or Roger Manning. Which is not to say this is bad music. Some pieces, especially the piano-laden "Doomed From the Start" have an immediate poignancy which makes them unforgettable cries from society's outcasts. (CD/MG)

LARD, "The Last Temptation of Reid" (Alternative Tentacles, PO Box 11458, San Francisco, CA 94101) Lard crosses a high energy grinding Dead Kennedy pace with Revolting Cocks/Ministry harsh mechanization to create a driving and strongly infectious release. Jello Biafra's characteristic hyper warbled voice is in full body as he unleashes his biting sardonicism against the FBI, CIA, drug raids, governmental intrusion and more, laid out with provoking newsbites in the insert swimsuit issue of Lard Illustrated. Jello also jabs at himself in "Bozo Skeleton," and lets a little paranoia out with a great cover of "They're Coming to Take Me Away." Strange asides, weird choruses, overdubs and more all make a supercharged, amusing and intelligent record. (LP/PMZ)

LARRY MONDELLO BAND, "The Giant" (#3 from PO Box 451, Collinsville, CT 06022): Experimental instrumentals in the theme of A Day In The Life Of A Giant. The giant goes through the machinations of everyday living—from waking up to coming back home after "hanging around." Not much excitement but it would make some nifty video background music if this were visual. (T/CG)

LAST CALL &EIGHT BALL Split EP ($3 from Last Call, PO Box 452, Hershey, PA 17033): Last Call plays fairly standard thrashing punk, with cool lyrics about toxic waste. Eight Ball was somewhat more, well, warped—their sound reminded me a bit of Gregory's Funhouse, though without the horror-movie vocal style. Their "Young and Insane" is one of those anthems that would have been real popular with my set in high school, a nose thumbed at authority everywhere. (EP/MG)

LAUGHING MOON NETWORK, self-titled ($8 CD/$5 tape from PO Box 483, Sylvania, OH 43560): A group that's impossible to pigeonhole, LMN consists of seven musicians playing a sort of light jazz rock acoustic fusion thang. The first song sounds like it started in the middle, later ones have unexpected pace changes— but on the whole it works. Relaxing and happy music that's not afraid to break out of the molds. (CD/MG) [MA#1080]

LEFT NUT, "Jumbo Canteloupes" (Classy Records, c/o J. Masters, PO Box 1149, Melrose, MA 02176): The A side of this one, "Burned Black", is pretty standard rock, nothing special. Flip it over, though, and you get the happy chorus of "Everything It Takes To Be An Asshole", a song that's mastered the art of familiarity on the first listen. Obviously the band really got into this one, and with their guitars banging around and heartfelt emotion, they draw the listener in too. (45/MG)

ADRIAN LEGG, "Guitars and Other Cathedrals" (Relativity, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): Progressive jazz guitar solo work from someone well-known in England as a customizer and builder of guitars. There's a lot of fresh ideas here, as well as references to bluegrass, classical and who knows what else. Light, but not dismissable. (CD/MG)

THE LEMONHEADS, "Lovey" (Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Much tighter than "Lick," the band's last college radio hit album, "Lovey" features Evan Dando doing some Pixies-ish heavy guitar work, plus quieter moments such as an acoustic cover of Gram Parsons' "Brass Buttons." The elements come together perfectly for a tightly cohesive effort that showcases Dando's maturity as a musician in all areas of composition, especially lyric sensitivity. Check out "Ride With Me," "Half the Time" and "Stove." (T/DW)

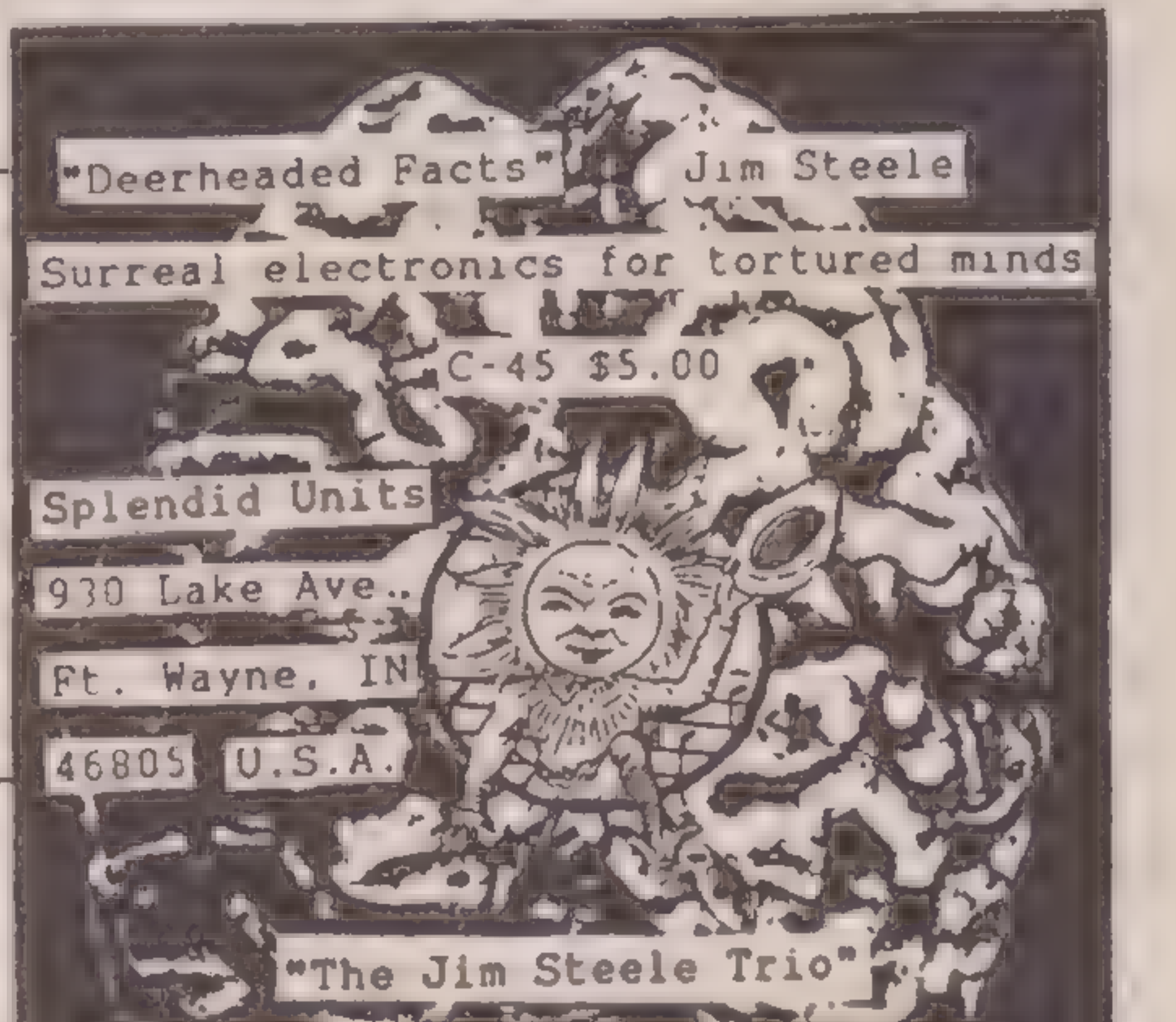
LES MISERABLES BRASS BAND, "Manic Traditions" (Northeastern Records, PO Box 3589, Saxonville, MA 01701-0605) Best known for their work in the Wilson/Byrne "The Knee Plays," this music shows a warmer side to the abstractions of that production. Working with a multi-ethnic tradition, the band borrows songs from festivals around the world, which they update with improvisatory conviction. Their instrumentation is as well suited for latin and carribean stylings as it is for the jazz tradition, but superb readings from stricter traditional compositions are also heard, alongside a Mingus like narrative, and even crazed brass noise on a cover of Hendrix's "Manic Depression." Throughout, the band maintains a festive air, evoking tradition while preferring the party. (T/PMZ)

LEVELLERS 5, "Big Friday" (Probe Plus, 8-12 Rainford Gardens, Liverpool, L2 6PT, UK): It took me a while to figure out why the pounding beat here was so familiar...then it came to me..."Tusk". Don't know why my brain heard it that way, because the rest of this is nothing like Fleetwood Mac at all, cool tough, hard-edged Brit dance pop. Definitely good stuff, full of heady rhythms and angry vocals and dense guitar work. Well done. (EP/MG)

BARRINGTON LEVY, "The Best of Barrington Levy" (Profile Records, 740 Broadway, New York, NY 10003): Smooth Jamaican reggae spanning the decades from the late 70s through a current computerized dancehall number (an evolution which I remain not entirely pleased with). Levy's vocals are the obvious focus here, from slow and mellow numbers through rapid-fire double-talk that's pretty well impenetrable for the non-reggae addict. (CD/MG)

LIGHTS IN A FAT CITY, "Somewhere" ($13 CD/$8.50 LP from Recommended Distribution Ltd., 387 Wandsworth Road, London, SW8 2JL, ENGLAND): Eerie modern tribal music featuring percussion, treated tapes, atmospheric electronics and lots of didgeridoo. The latter gives the music a tie back to Australian aboriginal culture, though this music has a very modern sound to it as well. Restful and meditative, but with sections of tautness and tension thrown in; good working music that sets a mood of contemplation. (CD/MG)

LIMBOMANIACS, "Stinky Grooves" (In-Effect, 187-07 Henderson Ave, Hollis, NY 11423) A huge funk rock sound fuels these sex obsessed rap voiced pieces. "Butt Funkin" and "Porno" are the motives driving this band, professing porn as their religion; the only song not so obsessed is "Toilet's Flooded," where a huge shit comes to life. Topics aside though, the music is excellent: multi-layered beats, heavy bass, synth, funky guitar, sax and samples; everything meshes to make an infectious sound that's can't be held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back, with producer Laswell's stamp heard in the huge bass sound and the clarity in the chaos (as well as the Burrough's overdubs). Bottom line: if this sounds offensive, you can't avoid their warped humor; still, this is an incredible mix of funky power. (T/PMZ)

**LIQUID PINK**, "Climbing Vine" b/w "Pretty Lizard" (Susstones, PO Box 6425, Minneapolis, MN 55406) This schizophrenic single suprises by sounding remarkably similar in "Climbing Vine" to the earliest Genesis. With vocals of a Gabriel quality, atmospheric music of synth, choral backing vocals, acoustic guitar and piano is defined. Though the lyrics could be tightened, a rich environment is evoked. "Pretty Lizard" is quite different, throaty vocals describing a conversation with, a crushing, and a cooking of a yellow spotted lizard, taking place over a frantic beat with driving bass, crazed guitar, active organ, and overdubs. Quite varied approaches for one single, but both involved and interesting. (45/PMZ)

**THE LITTLE WRETCHES**, "Just Another Nail In My Coffin" (RD 1 Box 275, Clarksville, PA 15322): The music of this quartet ranges from blistering, bluesy rock and roll, "Coke Whore Blues" and "Bag-O-Rocks", to the Lou Reed style commentary of "Saints and Sould V.F.D." and lots of places in between. A nice cover of Reed's "I'll Be Your Mirror" is jammed in among the originals that make up the rest of this collection. Strong lyrics make up for some musical unevenness and make this one worth listening to. (CD/WM)

**LOCUST PUDDING**, "I Am The Mighty Santa" ($3 from Spilling Audio, 540 Madison Ave. #7, Albany, NY 12210): A collaboration between Joe Sokolinsky and Eric Hausmann, this is the sort of Christmas music that we Scrooges like to hear. Santa here comes across as a terrifying mythic figure, subject to bouts of egomania and strange sexual excess, and with a voice that could crush boulders. The music is eerie and low, a mix of guitar and keyboards that will set knees to quaking. Play this for the little beggars and they'll never bother you for presents under the tree again. (T/MG)

**LONELY TRAILER**, "Party Matches & Siren Sounds" (Tim Stephens, PO Box 871, Urbana, IL 61801) Throw out all the superlatives: there isn't enough room to praise this band! A clean rocking highly acoustic sound of break neck time changes and an odd sense of rhythm fuels songs with the strangest of subject matters. Living under the water, Toads, Art Linkletter, airplanes crashing on your head, chickens in bike baskets- these are the absurdist topics tackled, and you'll find yourself singing along with lines like "I'll run you over like a cracker" without thinking twice. Only a trio, the bands sounds like 5 or more, packing about 6 of your average songs into any one of their frantic tunes. And yet it's all controlled and never chaotic; just wonderfully odd. (T/PMZ)

**LONESOME VAL**, self-titled (Bar None, PO Box 1704, Hoboken, NJ 07030): Yowza. Ole Val is one strong, brassy bitchin' woman who by turns can be tough or tender, softly yielding or powerfully yearning. She's canny, gives you the feeling that she's been "around the block, hell, they whole neighborhood," and yet she can convey such an innocence as well. There's enough twang here to make Patsy Cline proud and give kd lang a real fun for the moeny. Val's voice swings out clear and untrammeled against the appealing western-flavored bluesy country music. (CD/CS)

**THE LOOKOUTS**, "Mendocino Homeland" (Lookout! Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Cool blue vinyl EP from this now defunct band. They play a distinctively Northern California punk, full of vocals and a sound that goes with environmental activism and protest movements—the folk equivalent of the late eighties. Upbeat and inspirational. (EP/MG)

**LORD LITTER**, "Reel All Itty" (Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): This sort of one man band thing moves all over the place. The tape opens with a short layered electronic greeting thereafter touching bases (or basis) with homey sounding folk numbers, simple and spirited jams, kicked in the ass pop and whatever else the Lord's got in his head. (T/JCM)

**LORD LUNAR & HERMOONOS GUZANOS**, "Surfin' on the Moon" ($5 or trade from Guzbow Tapes, 721 N. Fairfax Rd, Bakersfield, CA 93306) Recorded in CA and Berlin, this collaboration between Guzanos and Lord Litter is a blues based guitar/ synth/ drum machine tape of abnormal song smithing. Starting slowly with "McDonald's in Moscow," the tape builds up to strangeness like "Surfin' on the Moon" or my personal favorite, "Boring Old Fart," where 'everyone's going to their hairdresser.' The tunes get downright silly, throwing out a host of cliches, but behind the fun there's some real ability, with capable guitar solos appearing among the oddity and noise. Essentially though: silly fun. (T/PMZ)

**LOST APOSTLES**, demo tape (Rock City Productions, 1415 Main St. #720, Worcester, MA 01603): These guys play a sort of complex pop sound, with lots of flowing melody and repetitive vocals. This is not a very polished demo, but it does hold some promise for the future; "Lonely Life of Dreams" in particular is a song I wouldn't mind hearing again. Firmly mainstream and strong on atmosphere. (T/MG)

**THE LUCK OF EDEN HALL**, "Hook, Line and Sinker" b/w "Looking Glass" (Limited Potential Records, PO Box 268586, Chicago, IL 60626) This trio plays an intertwined mildly jangly guitar pop with a crafted psychedelic edge that flows well; former band name Revolver gives an indictation of their roots. The vocals are throaty, on "Hook, Line and Sinker" producing a stream of images that are slightly over sweet yet inventive, the tune ending with a layed back yet nicely building solo. "Looking Glass" opens with backward guitar and ends with a little girl exclaiming "Mr. Rabbit!", and from such a gravely voice contains the unlikely line: "I'm a little girl with a bow in my hair." Interesting, relaxed songs. (45/PMZ)

**LUNAR BEAR ENSEMBLE**, self-titled (Mu Productions, 111 4th Ave. #5A, New York, NY 10003): Cool progressive rock music that pulls together raging vocals and nifty percussion and plenty of guitar and bass jamming. There's an atmosphere of self-exploration here, of words and ideas bursting to get out, of smoke and mirrors and the madness engendered by too many late nights of thought. Fine-tuned alternative rock music. (T/MG) [MA#1081]

**ABNER MALATY**, "The Untitled Hour" (Violet Glass Oracle Tapes, 5546 Harvest Lane, Apt. B, Toledo, OH 43623): Strange, disjointed electronic pieces, scattered randomly and identified only by their running times (ranging from ":28" to "14:40"). Though it possesses a distinct environment, this is no "ambient" recording. The music is detailed, percussive, and confusing, like some warped clockwork engine (which may be where the "temporal" theme comes in—the cassette sleeve bears the image of a pocket watch with its back pried off). Abner Malaty's work here defies easy encapsulation, but it is amazing to listen to. Excellent quality Dolby B chrome cassette, which seems to be the hallmark of VGO Tapes. (T/KS)

**MALOK with AND & WAS**, "Exstacee Bile" (PO Box 41, Waukau, WI 54980): A collaborative musical experiment between several of the best-known figures in the experimaudio underground, Malok, Miekal And and Liz Was. Together they produce a mix of analog and digital synthetic sounds, wils trips through a psychic underspace, eerie hallucinations of textured noise. A slowly-changing portrait of the soundscape. (T/MG)

**MALOK/THE WISCONSIN CONSERVATORY OF NOISE**, "Balking Priesthood" (Box 41, Waukau, WI 54980): Side One is Malok alone. This attempt at creepy thick-noise theater is weird enough, but fails to create any atmosphere: A tape loop of a Freddy Krueger-like voice repeats a single phrase incessantly, cheesy keyboard doodles tell you something else entirely, and the wall of noise which is supposed to hold it all together is dead weight drone all the way. Side Two, featuring said conservatory, has more interesting layers of sound, including the usual buried stream-of-consciousness stuff and some hellish cackling. The attempt at creating an atmosphere of chaos with noise seems slightly more inspired on this radio broadcast, but I can't say I enjoyed it. It's really not as interesting as it sounds. (T/KF)

**MANGO GROOVE**, self-titled (Atco Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): An 11-piece, multi-racial, multi-generational band from South Africa specializing in a brand of cross-music called Marabi-Kwela. This is like listening to Basia, Johnny Clegg and R&B. Terrific horns, vocals, and a combination of so many divergent talents—not only is it sensual, but you can dance to it, too. (T/CG)

**MANIACS**, "Thrown to the Dogs" (Black Fantasy Records, Koenigstor 1, 3500 Kassel, GERMANY): Pure punk for past people, or something like that. This is a lot closer to rock than to most of the hardcore sludge being pounded out these days, with a strong sense of music underlying the assaultive presentation. Though the band and PR are in German, the lyrics are in English, with "Kids In West Germany" (a sardonic look at a money-grubbing scene) and "The Last Song" (yes, another anthem) being high points. Well worth a listen. (LP/MG)

**ED MANN**, "Perfect World" (CMP Records, 155 W. 72nd St. #704, New York, NY 10023): A solo release by veteran percussionist Ed Mann. Nice snappy tunes with lyrics that fish wide but not deep. Mann's tenure with Frank Zappa is apparent in the mallet percussion and brass textures found throughout the recording, and the spoken-lyrics of "Why" and "Working For Change" bear more than a passing resemblance to Laurie Anderson. Derivative aspects aside, this is a well above average pop recording that features an absolutely superb band (including several other Zappa alums) and flawless sound on the CD. (CD/WM)

**MANNEQUIN HAND**, "The Other Side" b/w "Black Day" ($3 from Shakefork Records, 513 Prairie, Downers Grove, IL 60515): Cool rock music with some metallic guitar and a funky, low-down sound to it. Your standard four-piece, the band has a tight rhythm section and nice lead guitar work as well. Not a spectacular record, but certainly a competent one. (45/MG)

**MARBLE ORCHARD**, self-titled (Estrus Records, PO Box 2125, Bellingham, WA 98227): The two songs on this release went pretty quickly for me. The sound is an urgent one, a gritty semi-60's influenced fuzz-drenched one with lots of hard rock style and flair. Some nice guitar work complements the melodies, and the band's delivery was competent and then some. A nice teaser to introduce the band with enough to make you want to come back for more. (45/CS)

**MARGOLIS/MCGEE**, "Peat" ($5 from Hal MCGee, Electronic Cottage, PO Box 3637, Apollo Beach, FL 33572): Synthetic textual works from the masterminds behind If, Bwana and Dog As Master. They make a good team, intercutting analog sounds with perkier digital ones as well as cello, horns, and percussion. Very moody music, evocative and spacy. (T/MG)

**MARILYN'S ARMY**, "Golden Paradise" (HotCon Music, Werrastr. 21, 4300 Essen 1, WEST GERMANY): The members of this W. German army approach pop with ethnic and eclectic roots, skewing with bizarre intent sung with an amiable British nastiness. There's a gypsy feeling in their music, if in no other way than assimilative approach; violin and accordion further the comparison. Their music is both sophisticated and simple, an acoustic lightness that breathes life into appropriately sparse arragements, while maintaining a sense of the wonderfully abnormal. "James Dean" exemplifies: absolutely hip, yet still poking fun. Though not in the least power pop, they're absolutely right with the message "to obtain the best effect... you should turn it up!" (LP/PMZ)

**IAIN MATTHEWS**, "Pure and Crooked" (Gold Castle Records, 3575 Cahuenga Blvd. W #435, Los Angeles, CA 90068): Light and poetic folk-pop with an airy feel to it. Matthews and his acoustic guitar have been around for a long while, and the polish of this album attests to his professionalism. Nothing too taxing, lots of pleasant sounds to listen to, a CD good for relaxing by. (CD/MG)

**MEAT PUPPETS**, "No Strings Attached" (SST, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260) In 1982 the Meat Puppets were a thrash country band of screaming drunken craziness and freaky guitar solos. What evolved out of this was a suprisingly sophisticated band, never slick, still off center, but capable of translating emotion amidst a continuous cool sound. This release starts with the original "In a Car" ep and takes us to the present "Monsters" lp, the band's evolution in song writing, vocal and guitar skills clearly heard as the record progresses. For my tastes the out of control early days were best, but taken as a whole the two records nicely journey from insanity to smoothness, presenting the best of the Pups. (2*LP/PMZ)

**MELIX**, "Mind Machine" (Vision, PO Box 568, CH-4005 Basel, SWITZERLAND): Electrified dance music loaded with fuzzed-out vocals, though whether this latter is intentional or the result of recording too close to the microphone it's hard to tell. Not a clean mix, but an interesting one, full of surprises and the usual maddening repetition. "I Danced With a Zombie" is the best cut here, perhaps a sardonic reflection on the whole scene. (EP/MG)

**THE MEN THEY COULDN'T HANG**, "The Domino Club" (Silvertone c/o RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): Bouncy country ballads with an Irish lilt to them and good solid outback playing. The sound is a wild mix of contemporary and traditional, with bits of everything from fiddle to sax thrown in. Stories of life and love, winning and losing, crime and punishment here, all fast-paced and toe-tapping fun. Another fine album from a band that's had its ups and downs but may now be stuck in the ups. (CD/MG)

**THE MESSIAHS**, "Dead" (Sound of Pig, PO Box 15002, Van Brunt Sta., Brooklyn, NY 11215-0001): Very good live recordings from a hypergroup which seems not to hold back in the slightest. Mostly instrumental and rhythmically hermetic, the group sets out on adventurous music making (sometimes melodiously, sometimes noisily) which leads to long eruptive jams. For some reference points try Fripp, Savage Republic and early A Certain Radio. (T/JCM)

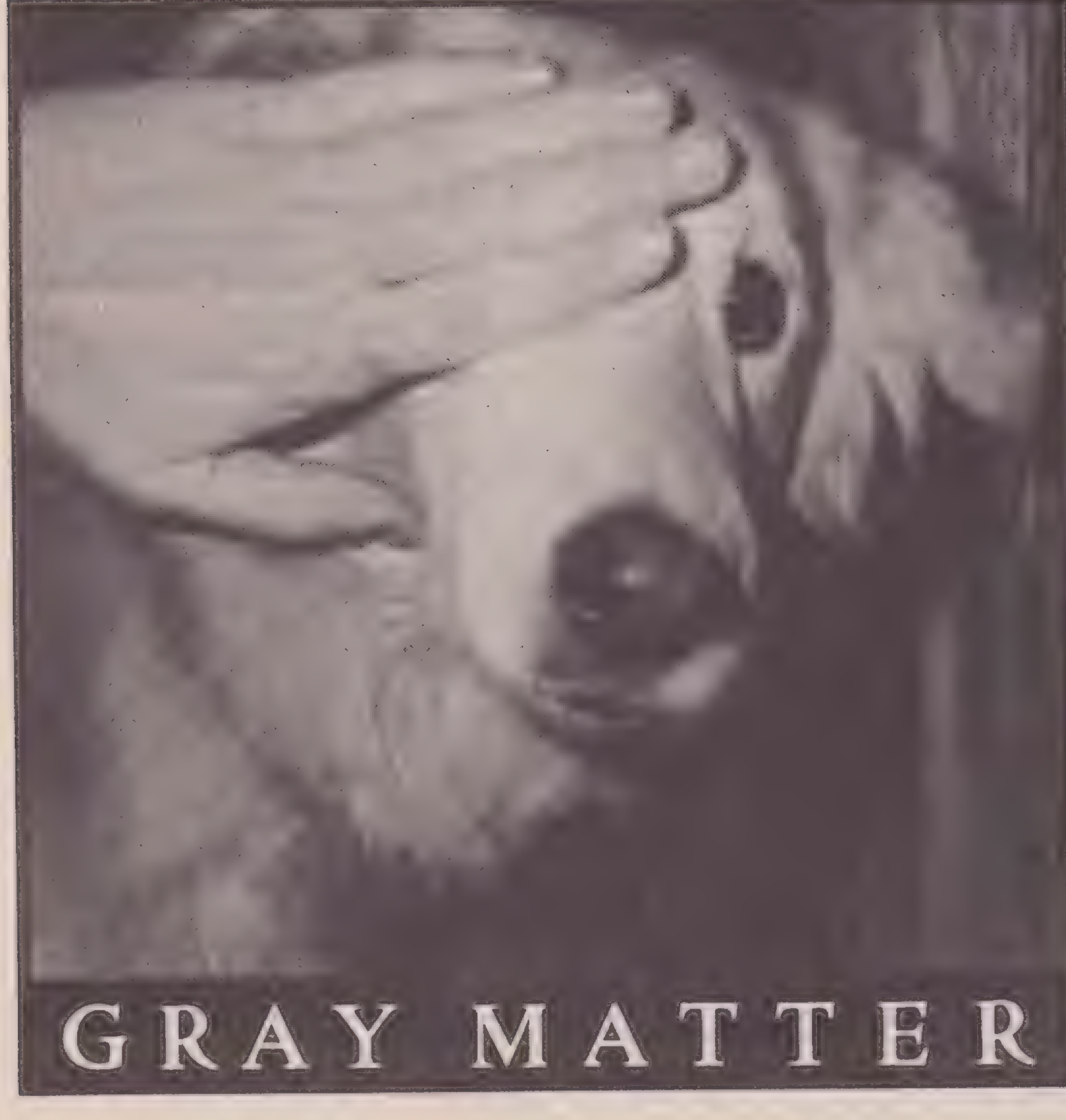
**METAL MIKE**, "I'm a Lonesome Fugitive" b/w "Kill For Satan" (Triple X Records, 6715 Hollywood Blvd. #284, Hollywood, CA 90028): The A side is really more ballad than metal, and even on the flip the guitars don't get really out of hand. However, it's definitely worth turning the record over, because "Kill For Satan" (provided in both normal and backmasked versions) is one of the most hilarious songs I've heard in a long time. Hope it gets heavy airplay in the cool stations. (45/MG)

**MICKEY FINN**, "Two Song Demo" ($2 *CASH* from Voluminous Wag Records, 1832 Portland Ave. #4, St. Paul, MN 55104-6066): A new group in the dark and guitar sweepstakes, putting together vocal harmonies and layers of sounds in a way that reminds me of some of the early Throwing Muses stuff, though on the harsher side. Competent, crisp, a bit overwhelming, and interesting. (T/MG)

**THE MIGHTY MIGHTY BOSSTONES**, "Devils Night Out" ($7 from Taang! Records, PO Box 51, Auburndale, MA 02166): Unleashed American ska/mod music with a madcap Bostonian bent to it, not to mention some hardcore influence. Led on by Tim Burton's wild sax playing and the raspy vocals of Dicky Barrett (who makes my throat hurt in sympathy), they have a lot of fun and pound out some wild notes. "Do Somethin' Crazy" and "A Little Bit Ugly" are hot, fast-paced, danceable and fun. (LP/MG)

**PHIL MILSTEIN**, "Tapeworm" (50 Skidillion Watts Records, 5721 SE Laguna Ave, Stuart, Fl 34997-7827) The manipulative Milstein, tape mastermind of Uzi, aka Pep Lester, is a tape constructionist and vinyl plunderer, taking freely from sound effects and Folkways records, radio broadcasts and lp's like "I Am an Ex-Convict from a Florida Chain Gain" or Inuit Eskimo throat songs. These he slices, loops, flips and otherwise mutates, on some mixing strange synth, guitar and even clarinet. The results run the gamut from humorous to thought provoking, from harshly angular to mesmerizingly frightful. Particularly impressive is "Life Cycle," leading warped silly sex to disturbed babies to death in 4:24. My recommendation is to pick up two and play them together at different speeds. Milstein would. (LP/PMZ)

**MINISTRY**, "In Case You Didn't Feel Like Showing Up (Live)" (Sire Records Company, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019-6908): You have to wonder about the sincerity of a band that does business with a label that voluntarily submits to that PMRC advisory sticker baloney, but Ministry seems to genuinely think it sucks. They devote considerable liner note space to an anti-censorship screed and offer the sage comment "Fuck Tipper Gore" at one point in the midst of this 6-song live recording. As for the music, it



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rocks pretty damn hard. The roadshow version of Ministry is credited with eleven onstage musicians (including a cameo by Jello Biafra), and if the ferocity of the recording was matched by the performance, I wish I did show up. (T/KS)

**MINOY**, "Late Autumn" ($8 from Minoy Cassetteworks, 923 W. 232 St., Torrance, CA 90502): Eerie synthetic tunes that go from stately ponderousness to swooping changes. Distorted vocals and endless rhythms combine with an overlay of edgy string-like music to keep a high tension level through much of the work here. On the border between synthetic instrumentals and all-vocal pieces, like an alien choir practice. (T/MG) [MA#1082]

**MITRENKE & VALIANT**, "Alien Landscapes" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): British space music that is quite compelling. The two gentlemen here take their samplers and Moog to work, and produce 45 minutes of long tones, building climaxes, and crushing noise. For late nights and long projects. (T/MG)

**MONDAY MORNINGS** "despise our world?" ($6 from Karen Collins, 12743 N. 19th St., Tampa FL 33613): Unfortunately ordinary rock, unduly influenced by other bands—and by so many as to have a sound at once familiar and unplaceable. Bass and drums predominate in the abscence of a strong melodic line, so one's attention is drawn to the lyrics, usually a single line repeated again and again somehow without thus becoming memorable. The band certainly has a freshness and energy—but no real tunes, just patterns of notes that end up sounding like standard rock. (T/JR)

**THE MONO MEN**, "Stop Draggin' Me Down" (Estrus Records, PO Box 2125, Bellingham, WA 98227): Somewhere to the east of The Monkees, to the west of Eric Burden... It's out there to the north of the Fuzztones and the south of The Lyres... There, in that hard to define but easily found location lies Mono Men territory. It's a wild territory, raw and crazy and thick with guitar fuzz and feedback. Come visit the Mono Men and enjoy it for yourself. It'll be a trip you won't forget. (LP/CS)

**MONSULA**, "Nickel E.P." (Lookout! Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Scrawny punk music, full of guitars, and teen angst lyrics. The band gets into some hot work, especially on "Razors", but don't really stand out from the pack. Four songs on red vinyl in all. (EP/MG)

**MOON**, "Questionable Places and Things" (Skyclad Records, 666 Valley Brook Dr., Middlesex, NJ 08846): Low budget but highly listenable 80's-chord-sounding pop with a hardcore edge. Kind of reminded me of The Records (and I hope Moon's success is longer lasting). Songs like "The Never Room" offer contemporary angst while maintaining a good attitude. If you're just trying it out, listen to it once for lyrics and again for music. With only two members doing all of it, you'll be really impressed, too. (LP/CG)

**MORE FIENDS**, "Toad Lickin'" ($7 from Rave Records, PO Box 40075, Philadelphia, PA 19106): Scrawling snarling buzzsaw no-wave punk with an attitude and a sense of humor(In one track of this release they beat up on the "Yellow Submarine"). Lots of guitars here, yowling-cat vocals, almost an audio dare to their audience to walk out or shut up. Awe-inspiring irrational originality here, the perfect band for the jaded audio sensation-seeker. (LP/MG) [MA#1083]

**PABLO MOSES**, "We Refuse" (Profile Records, 740 Broadway, New York, NY 10003): Straightforwardly Rastafarian reggae music that's kept up with the time, employing a slick, electronic feel to stand out from the crowd. Moses sings of refusing to go along with society, of struggle in South Africa, of the "Spirit of Jah" and the joys of being Rastafarian. Politely resistant, politically aware, and slickly produced, this is music with a beat and a message. (LP/MG)

**MOVING TARGETS**, "Away From Me" (Taang! Records, PO Box 51, Auburndale, MA 02166): The charm of this band of rock-slingers lies, I think, in the lead guitar work, traded off between Ken Chambers and (especially, at least to my ears) Chuck Freeman. They play a solid high-grunge rock, definitely working together with one another and with the music, and have been around long enough to get good at it. (45/MG)

**MPH**, "Kimika" (Carl Howard, aT, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): This 60 minute tape presents an inconspiciously dark substratum of concrete sound that kind of waivers with an odd clarity. Long sustaining chiming, deep slow sonic rumblings, dabbles of white noise, unpredictable panning and an occasional incongruous taped voice add up to a project equally suited for attentive listening or background (soundtrack) purposes. (T/JCM)

**THE MUSCLE SHOALS NOISE ORCHESTRA** "Swamp Worm" ($4 from Jake Berry, PO Box 3112, Florence, AL, 35630) Noise orchestra is an appropriate addendum to the first part of the group's name as the "noise" has a very orchestral flair to it in the sense that it evolves and then goes back to earlier progressions unlike most recordings of the day. Musical landscapes are painted with flutes, keyboards, guitars, kalimba, and odd vocals and body noises, to create obtuse sounds that lumber and then become quick and slick and flit away. (T/RS)

**MUSSOLINI HEADKICK**, "Blood on the Flag" (Caroline Records, 114 N. 26th St., New York, NY 10001): Heavy-duty industrial music from the dirty streets of Birmingham. Amidst the clangour and pounding and abrasive electronic riffs, they take a hard stance against war and fascism in general. The mideast, Ireland, Afghanistan; everywhere that there is gunfire, they find something to deplore, in aggressive fashion. Good for drowning out the local boiler plant, too. (CD/MG)

**NAKED RAYGUN**, "Raygun...Naked Raygun" (Caroline, 114 W. 26th St., New York, NY 10001): Hardcore pop, sort of: a band with punk roots but an undeniable polish that brings them to college radio stations across the land. They still sound like they mean every word here, urging people to take a stand and be counted, while the guitars and drum slams rain down around them. Nothing spectacular, but solid and reliable. (LP/MG)

**HOLLY NEAR**, "Singer in the Storm" (Chameleon, 3355 W. El Segundo Blvd., Hawthorne, CA 90250): Near is a seasoned performer, and here she sounds strong, clear as a bell...almost lyric. In peak form. This particular release was recorded live and the production is crystalline. Her richly emotive delivery is captured in mid-soar, and you can feel how stirring it must be for the audience to have been there. A warm, infinitely appealing release, one that will please the ears. (T/CS)

**THE NEW DUNCAN IMPERIALS**, "Hank-Panky Parley Voo!" (Pravda Records, 3728 North Clark, Chicago, IL 60613): Three guys dressed in turquoise tuxedos and party hats is my idea of a fun band. Here they are: much like Mojo Nixon without the biting sarcasm but with all the happy fun-poking humor. The music ranges from country to hardcore guitar slamming and songs run the gamut from "I'm schizophrenic (No, I'm Not)" to "6-pack of Love." My personal favorite is "Hamhocks," in which we are told to eat it with beans. A great party tape and probably a good band to hire for that company picnic. (T/CG)

**NEW KILLERS ON THE BLOCK**, "We're Here to Help You" ($3 from Pastor Irrelevant, International Entropy Annex, 7201 25th Ave., Adelphi, MD 20783): A medley of found sounds, readings from the Meese Report on pornography, moaning noises, electronic warblings, and chaotic live radio art. The producers say they've broadcast this all live, which implies that they have a very tolerant audience. Harsh industrial for the most part, with flights of verbal fancy. (T/MG)

**NIHILISTIC ORDER**, "On The Edge" (Rock City Productions, 1415 Main St. #720, Worcester, MA 01603): A seven song demo of rough-edged punk music with an edge that makes me want to stick my finger in a light socket and join the band in convulsing. They jam together a lot of music here, the more amazing because there are only two people in the band, Aaron Kent and Chris Charles. "Apathy Sucks" is some sort of leading edge anti-anthem. (T/MG)

**NO MAN**, "Whamon Express" (SST Records, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260) Roger Miller has gone full circle from Burma back to band, though this No Man is the smallest yet, adding only percussionist Andrew Deckard on Taos Indian Drums, cymbals and percussion. But for two, the sound is incredibly full, Deckard an awesome addition providing a thick rhythm environment around the rich feedback and heavily melodic sound of Miller's guitar. Vocally Miller is in great shape, the lyrics steering away from the mythic into the real world (except, perhaps, the cover of Bowie's "The Man Who Sold the World"). A real love of sound is shown throughout, and instrumentals like "Red Ants IV" or "Broke a String" demonstrate Miller's complete interests like never before. (LP/PMZ)

**NOMUZIC AND MCGEE**, "Goonz" (Electronic Cottage, PO Box 3637, Apollo Beach, FL 33572): Hal MCGee, NOMUZIC and Keith Wheeler Walsh improvise spacey and ambient electronics and machine noises directly to two tracks without overdubs. The result is thought-provoking and provocative, tense yet at the same time soothing. (T/DW)

**NO RADIO**, "Where The Hell Is God When We Need Him Now?" ($6 from Ron Silver, 213 E. 25th St. #1B, New York, NY 10010): A four-piece that sounds poised on the border between mainstream and punk, unsure of which way to go. They use fairly traditional arrangements and instruments, but put in gritty hardcore lyrics of angst and depression. Hard-driving but not upbeat music with a chrome-steel polish. (T/MG) [MA#1084]

**NORTHERN BUSHMEN**, "Happy Hooker Worms" ($4 from Cubist Productions, 3408 Juliet St, Pittsburgh, PA 15213) It's hardcore that fuels this band, but of a great sophistication with quick shifting tight changes and rock solid riffs of a dark and even middle eastern tinge. Listed as playing the 'inbred base,' 'boom boom tikkity pack' and 'virtual whirl wind of high end noise,' it's the vocals that are the hardcore giveaway: a brutal expulsion mixed below the music to create an atmosphere of energetic corruption. And with titles like 'God's Cunt'and an insert of nipple piercing sexual strangeness, corruption may be the key. But at this level of ability and energy, I'll be listening for more. (7"/PMZ)

**OBITUARY**, "Cause of Death" (Roadrunner, 225 Lafayette St, Suite 709, NY, NY 10012) Obituary plays typical heavy metal, or as they describe it, 'death metal.' And death is what obsesses this band, with titles like "Body Bag," "Chopped in Half, "Dying" or "Cause of Death." All the metal elements are here, with grinding chords and plodding beats, the drummer overdosing on double bass drum attacks, and the guitar solos epitomizing the pointless techno-jizz approach to non-melodic music, while the vocalist, listed as 'growls of death,' bellows in a fully unintelligible manner. Truly unappealing and silly. (T/PMZ)

**OCTAVIO**, "Octavio VI" (T.O.G., PO Box 4542, Arlington, VA 22204): A two song cassingle in the progressive, fusiony realm. Both cuts, "Celestial Ceremony" and "Heaviness on the Horizon", are light though challenging. The strongest contributions come from bass, saxophone, and percussion, but that is not to downplay the rest. (T/JCM)

**OFF THE EDGE**, "A Cut Above" (Music House Productions, 23 Maureen Drive, Mt. Sinai, NY 17766): A hybrid...a little Simon & Garfunkel, a little

Duran Duran, a little Alan Parsons Project and maybe a little Al Stewart. Overall the impression is one of smoooothness, of pop music that could charm the teeth off any AOR animal it met. Though there is a harder edge lurking beneath, for the most part it's a soaringly pretty release. And the harmony work is particularly notable. (T/CS)

**OLIVE LAWN**, "Cat's Meow" b/w "Mom's Farm" (Nemesis c/o Zed Records, 1940 Lakewood Blvd, Long Beach, CA 90815) Opening with a heavy Hendrix riff, "Cat's Meow" blasts with nasty vocals singing lines like "I need you; I mean I'm used to you", while a continuous crunch of distortion lines the sound. "Mom's Farm" continues the energy, very much in a Sub Pop vein, here protesting "I'm not going to wear those clothes no more." The end messes with the rhythm while overdubbing the voice of Corneilus, whose 'harbinger of death' finishes the song. Then, perhaps simply to confuse, a short, uncredited and quite pretty celtic guitar piece finishes the single. For a trio, this band creates a large sound. (45/PMZ)

**OMOIDE HATOBA**, "Surfin' in UFO" (Public Bath Records, PO Box 2134, Madison, WI 53701) Japanese Omoide Hatoba is formed from The Boredoms' guitarist and drummer joined by ex-UFO or Die bassist and a keyboardist. Their sound is a conglomerate of cool rock grooves and derangement: "Surfin' in UFO" is a good example, where a heavy bass groove is snuck up on by a wall of messed guitar lines, yelling voices and overmodulated organ. "Mother II", the strongest of the release, is an instrumental of a crazed snakey guitar lines that twine with warped guitar sounds, synth, and yelling voice. "Gara" closes out the ep with a disjointed jam, somehow relaxed amidst a disturbed approach. But then, for Omoide Hatoba disturbed seems a relaxed state. (7"/PMZ)

**ONLY LIVING WITNESS**, self-titled ($5.00 ppd from Jonah Jenkins, PO Box 1090, Hudson, NH 03051): Very heavy-handed ponderous thrash-core music. It's very very energetic in a brassy, bold, ballsy kind of way. And it's certainly delivered with more conviction than most. But it's too relentless—there's no interplay of instrumental texture or...what's the word..."finesse." I'm not saying we have to go for Bon Jovi commercialism or Motorhead traditionalism. I'm just saying that when bands like Slayer and Anthrax start to shape and move the form into something deeper and further, the standard for bands begins to move, too. The days of one-note speedsterism and hard-handed chordism are over. What'd be great would be to see thses guys really work their strengths—they've certainly got the power and the belief in what they're doing. Let's see them run with it. (T/CS)

**DINO OON/KONRAD KRAFT**, "Sieben Tage und Nachte" (Audiofile Tapes, 209-25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): Sparse, intellectual, electronic-industrial music that somehow manages to incorporate the unholy trinity of keyboard, drum machine, and West German vocals without succumbing to their cheesy collective wiles. In other words, Kraftwerk this ain't. Though Kraft (no relation) and Oon flirt with Eurodisco stereotypes, they're far more interested in playing around with tapes, samples and weird layers of unidentifiable sound—for which the world can be thanKFul. They also cover Tuxedomoon's "Blind", thus betraying their true allegiance. Against all odds, this is very good. (T/KS)

**OPERATION MIND CONTROL**, "Incandescence" (£2 ppd. from C.S. Promotions, 11, Layton Road, Islington, London N1 0PX, UK): A compilation of grueling, abrasive sonic madness. From what seem to be analog synthesizers to found sounds and washing machines, this one treads the territory between industrial and space rock, turning over a few new rocks on the way. Not an easy listen, but constantly novel background that demands attention at the oddest moments. (T/MG) [MA#1077]

**ORDINARY BOYS**, "Southwestern Suburbia" ($5 from (make check payable to) Wes Johnson, PO Box 55011, Phoenix, AZ 85078-5011): It's good to see that contemporary bands like to incorporate other eras into their music—these two guys borrow freely from 60's, 70's and 80's music but still maintain their own rock/pop uniqueness. First two tracks include a guest sax player—and he should have stayed for the whole album, because he really completes the music and helps set them apart. (T/CG)

**THE ORIGINAL SINS**, "Self-destruct" (Psonik Records, PO Box 2727, Lehigh, PA 18001-2727): The album is dedicated to, among others, "everyone else who knows anger can be fun." Which gives you a good clue as to what you're about to listen to. Really. "Alice D." starts out with "Oh, baby, I'm gonna burn your ass" and goes on to scream about how much he loves Alice D. Garage guitar distortion without losing control, screaming tortured vocals about going nowhere but down from here: it's music that you might hear in a neo-go-go movie about misunderstood teens, all that background organ and thompin' beat. (LP/CG)

**JIM O'ROURKE**, "It Takes Time to Do Nothing" (Carl Howard, audiofile Tapes, 209-25 18 Avenue, Bayside, NY 11360): "It Takes Time to Do Nothing" is one composition that begins with dreamy, soothing electronics, then segues into stormy, Gothic sounds. The tape is moody and ominous yet creates an intriguing atmosphere. (T/DW)

**K.T. OSLIN**, "Love In A Small Town" (RCA, 1 Music Circle North, Nashville, TN 37203-4310): At first I thought these tracks would be something like k.d. lang meets Garrison Keillor. All those initials and stories...Well, forget that. These songs may represent different people, but to me they sound like traditional, uninspired country-western songs. K.T. has a strong voice, but her lyrics stick to tired phrases like "Ooo-wee," and "this broken heart of mine" (a recurring theme). Built-up chorus' with overdubs and sweet women cooing "a new way home" are no replacements for twangy guitars or heart-wrenching notes—which direction some of these arrangements could take. (T/CG)

**PALE SAINTS**, "Half-Life" (4AD, 611 Broadway #311, New York, NY 10012): Lush harmonic pop from a semi-enigmatic British outfit that definitely is on the right label. 4AD has built a reputation releasing excellent new pop, and this will contribute to that. Beautiful guitar work here supported by eerily meaningful vocals makes this another neat record to listen to more than once. (EP/MG)

**THE PAPER TULIPS**, "Insects" (Flipside Records, P.O. Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): Feet planted firmly on ground trod by X ten-odd years ago, this combo kicks it with youthful exuberance and hunger which John and Exene have long forgotten. Guitar, bass, drums, and raw duet vocals are treated to very hands-off production, giving this release a live feel. The lyrics, all on a sheet, are kinda classic—witty, frustrated post-pubescent poetry, riddled with disease metaphors, straight from the thesaurus' mouth and left in very brief, artsy snatches which suit themselves perfectly to being shouted in a rock band. "The Twist" is one such ditty: "One half back looking for you/the other foot forward with a/Stomach ache." Yeah, they take themselves just a little too seriously. Maybe Ray Manzarek will hear this album and have deja vu... (LP/KF)

**SAL ROBERT PAUCIELLO & FRIENDS**, "In Memory of Elizabeth Reed" (9 Stanley St., Livingston, NJ 07111): A bluesy jam session, about seven and a half minutes of messing around with guitars and keyboards (plus a person credited with "Spiritual Support" on the tape card). There's nothing too astounding here, just a laid-back late evening sort of instrumental. (T/MG)

**FRANKIE PAUL**, "Get Closer" (Profile, 740 BroaDWay, New York, NY 10003): Though the pulse is distinctly that of reggae/roots music, to classify Paul as strictly that would be to do him a real disservice. With his husky, gravelly, soul-drenched vocals he sounds like he'd be equally at home singing stylistic ballads, raunchy r&b, or even down n' dirty blues rock. This gives the smoothness of the melodies an appropriate counter-balance; it also gives the material a texture that serves it well. (LP/CS)

**PEWKIS**, "One Step Beyond" ($3 from Rodent Productions, 1045 Haman Way, Roseville, CA 95678): Don't let the tape name fool you; this is not ska, by a long shot. Instead, it's electronic solo grunge noise distortion crud. In twenty minutes Matt cranks out 39 songs, most sheer blasts of noise without redeeming features. Sounds like something out of a broken TV set. (T/MG)

**PHINNEY JACKSON MCGEE**, "Ditch" ($5.00, Electronic Cottage c/o Hal MCGee, PO Box 3637, Apollo Beach, FL 33572): For a minute or two I thought my ears had tuned in to "Outer Limits" and forgotten to tell my eyes to

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join in the fun. But no—a quick check of the tv screen revealed all was quiet on that front...so it had to be the stereo. And it was. Two full cassette sides of analog forays into the stratosphere of electronic space exploration. Close your eyes and picture yourself tumbling through other worldly solar systems and beyond. It has that effect on you. (T/CS)

**PHROGS**, "Dead on TV" b/w "Radioland" (1905 Maple St, Lafayette, IN 47904) It won't take long to identify the Phrogs' vocal influence as that of REM's Michael Stipe. The music is even structured like a mild mannered early REM watered down into relaxed guitar pop. The songs are about television and the radio, "Dead on TV" a mumbling vocal which repeated listen did not elucidate the meaning of. "Radioland" passes up the tv for love of the radio; self-harmonies are the interest here, though again strongly similar to Stipe's approach, with a short and light guitar solo worked in. Overall pleasantly upbeat; appropriately pressed on frog-green vinyl. (45/PMZ)

**PINK LINCOLNS**, "Cotton Mather" b/w "I Do" (Rigid Records, 7215 N. Highland, Tampa, FL 33604): Punchy bouncing rock with a great beat and a heavy attitude. The A side is a chilling Big Brother rant; perhaps intended as irony, scary if it's really the band's point of view. The flip is something of an alternative love song turned ugly, fueled by the violence of despair. (45/MG)

**PINK TORPEDOES**, "Mary XXX-Mas" ($4 from E. Fowler, 3907 Wilbert Rd. (Rear), Austin, TX 78751): Rude and crude (and musically rather primitive) Christmas rock song parodies. There's Mary getting decked amidst the holly, daddy kissing Santa Claus, Rudolph's nose getting into odd places...well, you get the idea. Sophomoric humor at best. (T/MG)

**PLASTIC EYE MIRACLE**, "Robot Beatnick" (Doug Wofsey, 2866 Kipling NW, Massillon, OH 44646) Attempting to hypnotize you on introduction, PEM Mike & Doug create a curious world of electronics and narration, using a sing song, frequently effected, voice that might be characterized as a full bodied Mr. Rogers, though with an oddness he'd never dream of. Generally amusing stories and perspectives are described over relaxed interactive electronics, acoustic guitar used in a couple of pieces. But PEM can not be so easily generalized, and the 4 part "Soundtrack to the Randy Fairbanks Film 'Beer Run'" includes a sort of hardcore piece, some machine music, and straight acoustic guitar work. A quirky collection of varied approaches. (T/PMZ)

**PLASTIC EYE MIRACLE**, "Tunnel O' Spirits" (Doug Wofsey, 2866 Kipling NW, Massillon, OH 44646): A variety of sounds, from the poppy "Baby/Mother" to the spacey and electronically echoey "Like Now." The artists also has an eye for life's details with songs like "Her Perfume" and "Hole in My Good Shoes." Their dirgey, electronic cover of "Dock of the Bay" is inventive and amusing. Clever and interesting electronic and electric rock. (T/DW)

**PLATO'S LOAFERS ON THE DAVENPORT**, "Hubris, the Perfect Friend" (Sound of Pig, PO Box 15002, Van Brunt Sta., Brooklyn, NY 11215-0001): Two dub-heavy, percussive pieces rendered on contemporary equipment. Machine rhythms putter about while thick bass tones get excited amid an animated, menacing voice. Imaginative and (thankfully) not easily categorized. (T/JCM)

**PLUCK THEATRE**, "Vulgaria" b/w "Just Another Scene" (Arf! Arf! Records, PO Box 860, East Dennis, MA 02641) A gentle acoustic guitar progression intertwines with bass, sucking you into the blast of "Vulgaria," a marching snare beat leading the loud progressions and juxtaposed minor riffs that form a platform for the rich metaphors of this impressionistic song. Tight grooves shift in Firehose fashion, acoustic guitar adding subtelty to the strength of the music and the intelligent descriptions of the lyrics. "Just Another Scene" is more straight forward, based on a rollicking bass riff while a stream of images is described. This single stays on my platter for awhile. (45/PMZ)

**THE POCKET FISHRMAN**, "Soddom and Gomorrah" b/w "Dead Dog" (50 Skidillion Watts Records, 5721 S.E. Laguna Ave, Stuart, FL 34997-7828) Over high energy riffs, crazed vocals in the realm of Ed Hall explain in "Soddom and Gommorah" that the moral majority is rebuilding those cities just to burn them down again for the publicity. "Dead Dog" is more a story than a song, a punk riff driving the description of a dog murdered by laughing boys for satanic worship, while the dog ruminates in heaven over an oddly touching groove of the boys fate, while back on earth punk energy condsiders that what they've done not even Satan would be proud of. Unlikely topics of energetically bizarre, catchy rock with an odd sense of fun. (45/PMZ)

**ANUS PRESLEY**, "The Human Gun" ($5 from Sverre H. Kristensen, Agtrupvel 109, 1 tv., DK-6000 Kolding, DENMARK): Wild swirling electronic noises, harsh industrialism, and dozens of audio snippets from bad movies, porno flicks, political rants, and other sources. American culture as viewed through foreign eyes and a rapid intercutting technique that reduces it to a sequence of fragmentary images, each more annoying than the last. (T/MG)

**THE PURPLE OUTSIDE**, "Mystery Lane" (New Alliance Records, PO Box. 1389, Lawndale, CA 90260): A solo (well, almost) project from "Gary" Lee Conner of the Screaming Trees. This one has lots of fuzz guitar and other psychedelia, but it's also got a modern, punky sensibility about it, an attitude of sloppiness and blasting ahead regardless of where things are leading. Mind-blowing lyrics are complemented by hallucinatory music. Somewhat in-jokey, but fun. (LP/MG)

**PYGMY LOVE CIRCUS**, "Live" (Triple X Records, 6715 Hollywood Blvd #284, Hollywood, CA 90028) Crossover metal/hardcore leaning more towards metal, this is a live recording from Raji's in Hollywood. The band is tight, with a wall of noisy guitar, guttural vocal style, and an obnoxious desire to offend, welcoming the audience as peckerheads. Lines like "Don't give a fuck about nothing else, don't give a fuck about you" really put them on my personable band list of 1990. (T/PMZ)

**QUADRAPHASE**, "Alien Landscapes" (Audiofile Tapes, 209- 25 18 Ave., Bayside, NY 11360): Earnest, but ordinary, space music with its roots in "Zoolook"-era Jean-Michel Jarre. The title (and only) cut, the liner notes explain, is "an off-the-cuff improvisation of the original recording by Maz Mitrenke & Brett Valiant". My beef with this kind of thing is the slavish adherence to standard "cosmic" drones and flourishes. Nothing you can't hear on your average B-movie soundtrack. If you like that kind of thing, here's more of it, and probably better than most. (T/KS)

**GARY RATTIGAN**, "Weapon-Baseball" (24 Benedict St., Somerville, MA 02145): A tape "made up of edited sounds from movies on T.V. and video." Rattigan's source range seems to be fairly wide, from light porn to spy movies to war flicks; he splices together individual words, extends scenes, loops dialogue, and plays around. Cleanly produced, but—is it creativity or is it recycling? (T/MG)

**REALM**, "Suiciety" (Roadracer, 225 Lafayette St., Suite 709, New York, NY 10012): Yeesh. Talk about heavy on the ears. Not to mention the brain. Or the speakers. No subtleties for ole Realm here, nossir. Up front wall of sound metal musicianship that thunders its way through song after song with all the delicacy of a mad bull in a china shop. (And then some). This is not for those who are light of listening. This is for those who have army boots for ears, and leather for hearts. Straightforward, no pretentions, no "wussy stuff" like some of those mousse rockers do. Speedy and efficient. Metal metal metal. Oh yes, and did I mention metal? (T/CS)

**RED BLISS**, "Fishkill" (Axis Records, 2341 Chestnut St. #103, San Francisco, CA 94123): Raw energy, lots of feedback, and plenty of noise from a Boston trio. Their approach reminds me a bit of the Flaming Lips—not so consciously psychedelic, but still looking to squeeze the last decibel out of their guitars, the last oddness out of their lyrics. Pounding music for pounding days. (LP/MG)

**RED KROSS**, "Third Eye" (Atlantic Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, NY, NY 10019) Grow your hair, put on your paisleys, and slip into the 70's. Like their last "Neurotica," the band is more interested in the past than punk, and with guitarist Hecker now firmly integrated, this record is their most fluid. The song "1976" is a real identifier, with a Shaft guitar sound and lines about tube top mommas, gas lines, and sugary love. Like all of the songs on this record, the vocals are full, the harmonies rich, the lyrics well defined and funny, the music melodic, hook filled, and rocking at the same time. Add in a song about the Shonen Knife and one about Debbie Gibson & Kim Gordon and you have no major label sellout, just awesome pop. (T/PMZ)

**THE REMBRANDTS**, self-titled, (Atco Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Once you realize that this is the original tape, mixed in somebody's garage on an 8-track,and now being distributed by Atco, you appreciate the music much more for its professional sound. Not exactly cutting edge, but not sugary either. "Pure pop," as the saying goes. They at once remind me of early Squeeze and later Crowded House, with two lilting voices and harmonies mixed with strong guitars and strings that almost make you want to hug somebody. But it's the lyrics that deter from the whole, as chorus' get repeatedly endlessly—why do they still do that in pop?—Mostly love songs, me songs and one jingoistic anthem that's sure to end up as a Coke commercial. On the whole, though, the music and the voices are easy to listen to. (T/CG)

**REPTILES AT DAWN**, "Nighthawks in Exile" (Sonic Heist Records, c/o Ima Hitt, PO Box 407, New Plymouth, NEW ZEALAND): Straightforward rock, excerpted from the "Dressed in Flesh" LP. The band appears to be a duo, but they lay down a lot of noise for all that, garagey, slightly psychedelic guitar leading the way. Pleasant and rocking. (EP/MG)

**THE RESISTANCE**, self-titled (Rock City Productions, 1415 Main St. #720, Worcester, MA 01603): This one starts off promisingly enough with some guitar work reminiscent of vintage Blondie, but it declines from there fairly rapidly. The band seems to be trudging through its set, lacking vitality, and the abysmal demo quality is no help either. The low point may be reached in the zombiefied cover of "Draggin' the Line". (T/MG)

**RHINO BUCKET**, self-titled (Reprise Records, 3300 Warner Blvd., Burbank, CA 91505): A record that apparently came out of a time warp, mimicking almost perfectly the early years of AC/DC, right down to the vocal stylings. About the only added attraction is a lyrical sense that finds song titles like "Even the Sun Goes Down" naughty and cute. A moderately interesting headbanger, but that's about it. (T/MG)

**RITUAL SACRIFICE**, "309, Ritual Sacrifice" (212 Waterman Ave., North Providence, RI 02911): A two song cassingle of ferocity styled metal thrash. Rough throat delivered vocals knit yarns of death and slaughter carried nicely by strong riffwork and unpredictable shifts. (T/JCM)

**ROTGUT**, self-titled (Potty Queen Records, 4721 Larchwood, Philadelphia, PA 19143): Power-punk four-piece doing four songs here, or maybe it's one song four times. (Well, no, the instrumental does sound different). The music pounds around, sloshes through your head, and having scrambled brains, exits out the opposite year while the band is hunting down more guitar chords and near-chant vocals. The zen of punk. (EP/MG)

**KEN RUBINSTEIN**, "The Five Year Sentence" (45 Belmont Ave. #B4, Garfield, NJ 07026): The most polished work that I've heard from Ken to date, though not necessarily the most accessible. He goes for a mix of guitars, synthesizers and vocals, the latter often run through various effects for a jarring ambience of man/machine interaction. There is a mix of deranged potential pop songs and more symphonic material here, off int he exploratory ozone somewhere. (T/MG)

**RUINS**, "Stonehenge" (Shimmy Disc, JAF Box 1187, New York, NY 10116): Bass, drums, and yowling from a Japanese experimental band. They go in a lot for repetition, so maddening on one track that I eventually gave up on slogging through the whole thing. Audio torment in a high-strung neo-industrial vein. Plus the title reminds me irresistibly of Spinal Tap. (LP/MG)

**RUN WESTY RUN**, "Green Cat Island" (Twin\Tone Records, 2541 Nicollet Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55404) On their 3rd lp this Minneapolis band is pulling together their influences into a sound definitely their own. That sound is a funnel, integrating that which has passed before them, with muscular riffs from Hendrix to the Stooges, 70's rock somewhat of a focal point, with hints of western and folk showing through. The vocals are unique, tenuously strong and fragile at the same time, remarkably similar to those of Mofungo, shifting from crazed excitement to the touchingly emotional, with lyrics of shifting impressions and strong images. With each listen this album grows as references and riffs register the strong abilities of this band. (LP/PMZ)

**SADISTIC INTENT**, "Impending Doom...." $7 from Wild Rags Records, 2207 W. Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640): Heavy duty thrash metal, full of heavy noises and shout-screamed vocals that could blow a strawberry through a brick wall. Sounds like they scorched a few studio walls making this thing, especially on the closing title cut, a real downbeat pre-apocalypse song. (EP/MG)

**SADUS**, "Swallowed in Black" (RC Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): This is pretty much your standard speed metal album: gravelly vocals, fast guitars, bombastic drum and bass lines. They throw in a bit of tempo changeup, but you know something's not clicking when the most ear-catching part of the tape is the over-long pause between a couple of songs on the second side. (T/MG)

**SAFE AS HOUSES**, "The Moon Belongs To Rachel" (Mountain Records, PO Box 911, Hightstown, NJ 08520): College-radio oriented rock with a smooth and harmonious sound. A three-piece band that puts together tight and listenable melodies, they've played everything from the Uncle Floyd Show to compilations of Jersey's best unsigned bands. More substantive than most college pop, but definitely with the music coming first. (EP/MG)

**THE SAMPLES**, self-titled (Arista Records, 6 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019): Lead singer/songwriter Sean Kelly probably hates this, but I don't think anyone can help it: this music sounds so much like The Police that I had to check the credits to see if Sting was there. The same reggae feeling, the same soulful voice, even the same steel drum! Don't get me wrong, the music is good—great, even, if you like *Zenyatta Mundatta*. Too bad the lyrics aren't as good. Although they are socially and environmentally conscious (to the point of whining), they tend to be a little forced: "psychedelic waves in the ocean of war"?? (T/CG)

**RIP SCHRADER**, "Techno Primitivism" ($3.00 from Rip Schrader, 2932 Roundtree, Ypsilanti, MI 48197): One minute it sounded like OZ dimentia on acid. The next more like a Laurie Anderson project. And the next like some wired pop culture sound freak fest. And then there's all this sort of bizarrely fascinating sound so close to the ones that the B-movie flying saucers used to make (I loved that one). Then it moves on to sound like some scientific aural laboratory run amok. In short, it never stops moving, and neither do your ears as they attempt to keep up. (T/CS)

**SCREAMING TREES**, no title (Epic Records, 1801 Century Park West, Los Angeles, CA 90067-6406) Seattle's Screaming Trees, now with a major label, continue to create a thick melodic grungey rock where the songs are served with a rich wall of noise. Vocalist Lanegan's masculine graininess carries the solid melodies in his lyrics, frequently followed by sustained guitar and surrounded by drenched feedback and wah. That melodicism sticks with you as you catch the shifts from sensitive lines to powerful blasts to darkly expressive riffs. An excellent cross of force and expressiveness. (T/PMZ)

**THE SECRET TEAM**, "Earthquake Weather" ($2 from Baby Faze Records, PO Box 4264, San Francisco, CA 94101): A cassette single of political hard rock, released for the anniversary of the SF quake, though the lyrics are more about being uneasy around the government. The flip side "Election Year", has a similar theme. Well-practiced playing, but the songs lack the sort of punch that punk has grown us to be accustomed to with political music. (T/MG) [MA#1085]

**SENATOR FLUX**, "The Criminal Special" (Emergo, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): From the booklet with the CD (a comic about lucid dreaming rather than lyrics) to the cocky cover of "It's All Too Much", this is a weird and wonderful pop band. There's a fascination with altered states of consciousness that runs through the dreamy music here, informing and entertaining at the same time, and perhaps even setting the stage for a few dreams afterwards. The political consciousness drifts in and out with occasional sharp attacks on complacency, but this music is more about changing yourself than about changing the world. (CD/MG) [MA#1086]

**SEPULTURA**, "Schizophrenia" (RC Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): Grungy Brazilian thrash metal, which just goes to show once more that the guitar speaks an international language. They do have unique touches, including a willingness to explore deliberately off-tune lines and otherwise jar the listener out of a comfortable state. But for the most part this is blazing guitars and tempo changes and lyrics about death and the void. (T/MG)

**SERAH**, "Love of Christmas" (Great Northern Arts, Ltd., 114 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10016): Well, it's good to be getting a Christmas album in time for review in the December issue for a change. However, we were not overly taken with this lightweight adult contemporary production here at the FF offices. Serah has a clear and fragile voice, and the music ranges from gentle to insipid, dreamy to banal. Packed in a giant Christmas card with calligraphed lyric booklet. (CD/MG)

**THE SHA-MEN**, "En-Tact" (One Little Indian Records, 250 York Road, London SW11 3SJ, ENGLAND): Exciting techno-pop from the country that seems to have a near-monopoly on the field. At times clashing noises, at times intricate rhythms and vocals that reminded me a bit of the Eurhythmics, at times sheer mindless repetition with a great beat. Words seem clumsy and inadequate to describe this polished and complex album. (LP/MG)

**DAVE SHARMAN**, "1990" (Noise International c/o RCA, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036): An instrumental electric guitar album which has more range than many of the virtuoso showoffs others have produced. Dave runs from heavy-metal madness to cool liquid playing, seemingly having fun while demonstrating just a bit of flash. Pleasant without being compelling. (CD/MG)

**ANTON SHEDLOCK & SIN DROME**, "GPC #02" ($4.50 from General Purpose Cassettes, PO Box 85, Landenburg, PA 19350): A split tape of finely tooled music. Sin Drome provides an industrial, funky sound, very rhythmic, almost soothing in its intensity. Anton Shedlock is in the same aural orbit but adds vocals and a palpable angst, a lonely sort of music that will jerk some tears. Very well-produced, the tape comes in a wooden box with a booklet of miniposters. (T/MG)

**SHRINKWRAP**, "Live Revenge" ($5 from PO Box 11831, Pittsburgh, PA 15228): A harsh tape, somewhere between hardcore and goth/industrial, that contains almost as much audience interaction as it does music. The band was apparently not having a good reception, but that doesn't keep them from blasting away, laying sonic waste all around, and then strafing the survivors. Dark music for dark nights. (T/MG)

**TERRANCE SIMIEN & THE MALLET PLAYBOYS**, "Zydeco On The Bayou" (Restless Records, PO Box 3628, Culver City, CA 90231-3628): Well, I don't know a whole lot about zydeco, but I do know that it's got accordions and Southern roots. I also know that this particular disk sounds darned good, bouncy happy playful dance music that no one could ignore. Favorite tracks include "Zydeco Zambada" and "Will the Circle Be Unbroken". If you want to expand your musical horizons at all, this is a good place to start looking. (CD/MG)

**SINGING SPOONS**, "Buzz" b/w "Colorado" (Manufacture, PO Box 37220, Tallahassee, FL 32315-7220): With multiple Miller pictures on the cover and sloppy playing on the vinyl, this seems almost more of a beer commercial than a record—which is one way of saying that their music just didn't connect with me. These guys seem competent enough, but without spark or clarity, a band that needs to find some center to play from. (45/MG)

**SKID MARKS**, "Live It Out" (Weasel Records, POB 1274, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266) You can't miss the cover soft sculpture of this record if you happen to flip by it... Skid Marks is a California hardcore 5 piece playing decent fast paced rock with dark dual guitar attacks that are countered with upbeat high energy drumming. The vocals are an angry yell of personal and social concerns, where man as animal and alienation are frequent topics, though suicide and the senselessness therein recur most frequently. And though obsoletion, euthanasia, murder and doing time fill out the album, there is still a positive sense to the music, and the band looks happy in photo. Confusing to explain, but good CA hardcore. (LP/PMZ)

**THE SKINFLUTES**, self-titled (Lookout! Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Heavy-duty hardass punk from somewhere around the SF bay region. The most interesting cut is "Rebel Run", which starts off with a funky jazz-bar line and somehow, almost imperceptibly, mutates into a thrashing rocker. (45/MG)

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**SKINSECT**, "Wart-Pills and Stringburn" (Over and Out Records, PO Box 49795, Austin, TX 78765): Pretty standard fare here, with no real surprises or peaks. For the most part it's capably executed hard rock—at times with a touch of glam or a splash of punk to liven things up a bit. The heavy chords, brisk melody lines and stolid drumming had all the right things in place but just lacked that certain something—a zest of some kind maybe—that kicked up and sent it over the edge. The music came closest to that on side 2 when things really flew with an instrumental break there—but over all, it seemed as though the band went into the studio and got a little selfconscious over their power, so they pulled back in a more restrained mode which doesn't let them shine the way they could. (T/CS)

**SKOPTZIES** "Blow off the Dust!" (from Phinney, POB 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): Some pretty good eeie synthesizer on this, but its otherworldly menace is belied by the this-worldly (mundane) guitar and drum, and a vocalist who shouts angrily and indistinctly—he becomes quite irritating after a while. If you wanted to set the back cover blurb for a cyberpunk novel to music, this might be a good band to choose. (T/JR)

**SKUNKWEED**, "Get Out of My Way" b/w "Skunk In The Road" ($3 from Legalize Records, PO Box 194282, San Francisco, CA 94119): Given the band name, the label name, and the fact that it's on lovely mottled green vinyl, you can probably guess what the songs are about. That's good, because you sure can't make a word out from the lyrics (no lyric sheet supplied, either). Very raucous, very energetic, very punk, but perhaps they should have put off the smoke until after the recording session. (45/MG)

**SLAPSHOT**, "Sudden Death Overtime" ($7 from Taang! Records, PO Box 51, Auburndale, MA 02166): Guess I'd call this positive punk, a Boston hardcore supergroup of sorts. They put together some firm anti-drug messages on this album, including a version of "White Rabbit" with some added verses that leave Alice in a much worse spot than the airplane did. "Firewalker" is one for the atheists, equally smearing half a dozen major religions. (LP/MG)

**SLAYER**, "Seasons in the Abyss" (Def American, 9157 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069): There's a reason that Slayer's name pops up so often when reviewers are looking for things to compare other death metal groups to—it's that they do it so well. Hard loud and dangerous guitar work sets off lyrics that demand the advisory that graces the cassette case. The sort of music that makes PTA Presidents run for cover and kids sacrifice small furry animals. (T/MG)

**THE SLOANE RANGERS**, self-titled (Invert Records c/o Gary M. Kraus, 2012 Chestnut Ave, Ardmore, PA 19003) At first listen one may hear a U2 influence and then a possible Replacements hint but then you get slapped in the face with vocals very obviously influenced by Neil Young. Intriguing combination of acoustic and electric guitar, electric rhythm bass and the smooth neat drumming played by the three members of the band all of whom are excellent musicians that have perfected their ensemble so that when they play they are one entity and not just three guys playing. (T/RS)

**SLUDGEHAMMER**, "Big Water","Step on Me","Love Cake","Close to You" ($4 from Brian Welcker c/o Cubist Productions, 3408 Juliet St, Pittsburgh, PA 15213) Good grungy wall of noise rock with a Dinosaur flavor from this Pittsburgh band. For a trio they make a lot of noise, above which the vocals are sung alone or in harmony with an off center J. Mascis fragility, alone or in harmony. Not awesome, but a good crunchy sound worth a spin; nice cover and label drawings. (7"/PMZ)

**SMELLY GAMBAS**, demo tape (Tap-Tap Beat-Club, Webergasse 18, 8200 Schaffhausen, SWITZERLAND): A five-piece rough and ready post-punk group, heavily into vocal interplay and plenty of guitar work. The mix is not the greatest, but they've got a Europunk energy that springs forth and dominates the room. There's a lobster on the tape cover for some reason too. (T/MG)

**G.W. SMITH AND FAMILY**, "Live 1989" ($5 from Greg Stomberg, 300 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): G.W. Smith plays some real downright nice stuff...only it's the kind of stuff that ought to have him named Lonesome Bob, of Laconic Jake, or Rodeo Bill. It's moonshine porch music, white trash down and dirty southern-fried country stuff that sets just right in yer ears. It's a shame that the production wasn't as clear as it could have been, though—lots of nuances got lost at medium decibel, like a child's voice in off kilter harmony, or a harmonica or tambourine accompaniment. (T/CS)

**THE SOLENOID HUMS**, "Youthful Stage" ($3 from Kevin J. Lintner, 827 N. Queen St., Lancaster, PA 17603-2739): Busy syth-based music, lots of noise going on, hypnotic repetitive beats and lyrics. As the name might suggest, this could almost be considered industrial, as it partakes of the rhythms of the machine, though without the overwhelming noise of most such efforts. Spirited stuff. (T/MG)

**SOLOMON GRUNDY**, self-titled ($7.50 from New Alliance Records, PO Box 1389, Lawndale, CA 90260): Grunge slam rock centered around Van Conner, x-Screaming Trees. The band is into somewhat bloated jamming, long drones of noise that just beg you to take drugs and dance. "Time Is Not Your Own" is a pretty peak experience all its own, a morass of guitars and vocals that pounds powerfully at the inner core of being. (LP/MG)

**SOMEDAY PEOPLE**, "Temporarily Insane Hair-Caring Hardcores From D.C." ($3 from PO Box 384, Front Royal, VA 22630): "Folk Rock Punk Rebels" who offer both extremes plus Monty Python rip off comedy. Songs are sometimes muddled, so the lyric book of songs really comes in handy. Lyric content ranges from silly dirges about band member Tony B. looking for a date to "Meet the Potatoes," about those unthinking ignoramus' who live next door. Tony and Bryan had a lot of fun here, but my two questions are: What are they rebelling against? and is that a *real* British accent? (T/CG)

**SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE**, "These Silences" (£5.50 from Andrea James, 55 Perowne St, Aldershot, Hapshire GU11 3JR, England) Andrea James and David Tiffen work with environments of cyclical music of a moody nature. Often atmospheric, Andrea's haunting full bodied or fragile voice glides over ethereal atmospheres of synthetic constructions. Contrasting, other pieces use active synth grooves, muted rhythms or machine beats, including an absurd looping of unintelligible voices in "Separate Torsos," or a gasping breath and displaced carols in "Night." No samplers are employed, though many sounds are mixed within, supressed voice, telephone cues, chimes, and anthemic music recurring. The results are a subtle circumfluence of affecting sound. (T/PMZ)

**TED SONNENSCHEIR**, "Bootleg" ($10 min. donation from Ted Sonnenscheir, 588 Chestnut, San Francisco, CA, 94133) Ted has a bootleg (OK, it's the Replacements) but I don't condone his method of gaining money for his latest film project even if he is giving all of the donators a thanks in his film. Then again we all know that this particular boot could probably be found on the street in NYC for only $5.00. (T/RS)

**SOUL ASYLUM**, "And the Horse They Rode In On" (A&M Records, 595 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10022): If all the rock styles of the last twenty years were put in a blender, and all the spiky substances were strained out, you mightr arrive at something like this mediocre long-playing pastiche. Bland melodies, monotonous drumming, obligatory rasp in lead singer's voice, lyrics of sufficient gloominess garnished with the kind of bad puns that will earn rock its eventual oblivion—and all this very well done and produced, so that the result had a contrived quality. Mainstream rock a computer might have generated out of FM statistics. (T/JR)

**SPECIAL ED**, "Legal" (Profile, 740 Broadway, New York, NY 10003): Special Ed starts off in the same manner as many rappers, but soon distinguishes himself with a playfully smooth repartee that helps ease across the different messages in his songs. The lyrics are by turns thoughtful, provoking, and amusing, and should be noted while enjoying the musical mix. Though young in age, Special Ed delivers the goods like an old seasoned pro. (LP/CS)

**SPIRIT OF SOMA**, "Black Trees" (HotCon Records, Werrastr. 221, D-4300 Essen 1, GERMANY): Stooge-ish rock with a pounding, low-down mix that makes it stick to the roof of your turntable. They're not a very friendly band, and they don't think much of those that are. Check out these lyrics from "That Fucking Song of Love": "Sometimes I must vomit/I'f I'm hearing that slimy sweety sound". A musical kick in the stomach, raw and pessimistic. (LP/MG)

**THE SPLATTER TRIO**, self-titled ($10.75 from Rastascan Records, PO Box 3073, San Leandro, CA 94578-3073) Jazz with an experimental bent, Splatter Trio works with drums, sax, and bass/guitar, shifting from free blowing break neck compositions to introspective post bop work. The sax is guttural and thick toned, tenor, alto and soprano heard, the drums maintaining active counter actions and punctuations, while all is underpinned by solid bass work or accompanied by clangorous guitar. Capable of crazed action and beautiful evocations, often within the same work, it's hard to pin down the sound of the group; suffice it to say that they're pushing both their instrumental abilities and their compositional skills to the boundaries. (T/PMZ)

**SPOT 1019**, "Still...Again" (Frontier Records, PO Box 22, Sun Valley, CA 91353): Sorta psychedelic, sorta country, lots of fun rock with an utter lack of seriousness that is quite appealing. There's a heartfelt ode to Hubert Humphrey, the tire-burning lead song "Five Meals From One Chicken", the amusing "House of the Rising Bigfoot", and other wild things here. A bar band for the WEEKLY WORLD NEWS set. (LP/MG)

**ST 37**, "Feature Silica Vicarious" (Spasms, PO Box 4962, Austin, TX 78765) Less clean and sophisticated than the subsequent "From Space With Love," F.S.V. is a strange tape of bizarre songs on odd topics sung in a warped vocal style. A funky rock root using heavy effects while creating strong riffs drive these involved songs, the keyboards giving a strong nod to the Ubu style with strange electronic blips and swoops. Conversations, howling, yodeling and heavily reverbed voice, whining kittens and other unrecognizables meld into the often insane output, all with a sense of disturbed fun. The inconsistent and murky quality of the recordings detracts, but it's worth listening attentively to extract the oddity of ST37. (T/PMZ)

**TRACI STARR**, "Feeling of Love" b/w "I'm A Loner" (Hit City Records, PO Box 64895, Baton Rouge, LA 70896): Traci Starr sounds like a nice person aspiring to a new career in music, singing in front of some anonymous upbeat pop band, hoping to make it big. Unfortunately her voice has little depth, and what depth there is is pretty close to a whine. Just didn't do it for us. (45/MG)

**DAVE STEWART AND THE SPIRITUAL COWBOYS**, self-titled (Arista, 6 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019): A tape from one-half of the Eurhythmics, not playing on his own but with a different backing band. The music is more in the rock mainstream, less experimental than the stuff he's done with Annie Lennox. I can't say I dislike the album, but it doesn't really turn me on either; upbeat, lush music, well-played, but not flashy. (T/MG)

**RUSS STEDMAN**, "Onionz" ($3 from 911 N. Main #2, Mitchell, SD 57301) Opening with the line "You can do what you wanna do," S. Dakota Stedman proceeds to heed his own advice. Based on fuzzy guitar/ rhythm box pop, Stedman writes songs with forced rhymes and lines on the edge of stupidity that consistently bring a chuckle from their absurdity, silliness and strange accuracy. Early C. Van Beethoven is the most consistent reference, as in "The Pirate Song" desiring a radio station in his car, or "Underneath My Skin" where Alph-alpha & Buckwheat buy Kiss records to have them injected underneath their skin. But the blues also come in to show Stedman's able guitar roots, alongside other pop forms. Though not polished, these songs are capable of drawing a smile. (T/PMZ)

**ST. JOHNNY**, demo tape ($3 from Dagger Tapes, PO Box 380152, East Hartford, CT 06138-0152): Unrestrained hard rock which goes from metallic guitar solos to grunge-punk noise walls and back. A lot of the vocals are mixed up into fuzziness, which might, I suppose, have been deliberate. A clattering cacophony of noise. (T/MG)

**ST. JOHNNY**, self-titled (Turn of the Century, PO Box 65, New Britain, CT 06050-0065): I *thought* these guys sounded familiar—this is an expanded and polished version of the above tape. The fuzziness has been cut down a bit, but the madness and cacophony are still there. It becomes easier and easier to tell that these guys are trying to use guitars to drive away the pain, or at least inflict it on their audience. (T/MG)

**SUB**, "Sunshine-EP" (Juntunen, VILJ.T. 4-6 F 182, 00410 Helsinki, Finland) An organ riff spins on a 60's groove over lively drumming and muscular bass work as this instrumental settles in with a strong melodic sax line, changing gears via the organ's gyrations; "Sunshine" is the title, and it well recalls the psychedelic roots that fuel this Finnish band's music. The 2nd side adds vocals, "Aika" sung in a lilting voice while an agile beat coupled to a strong bass groove is set against a haunting chorus of high pitched organ and acoustic guitar. The ep ends with a cover of the Stooges' "Ann," more delicate than the original, but true to the flowing moodiness of this excellent band. (7"/PMZ)

**SUPERCHUNK**, self-titled (Matador Records, 611 BroaDWay #712, New York, NY 10012): Jangly guitars, North Carolina pop, all muddled together in the sort of slop-rock mode that characterizes a lot of critical darling college radio bands. Of course the song to comment on is "Slack Motherfucker", but only for the title, because the music is consistent throughout, not exploring much new ground but fun nonetheless. (CD/MG)

**SYBARITE**, "Sybaritic Visions" ($5 from Greg Stomberg, 303 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061): A tape of rockish stuff, basic guitar and drums and vocal work. Much of it sounds like studio practice or jam sessions, giving a real wandering feel to it all. Every once in a while the band gets going, but I mainly found this lacking spark. (T/MG)

**T.4.2.**, "Get it Cheap" ($2 from Helmut Colfen, Mendelstr. 6, 4100 Duisburg 46, West Germany) German pop with a hard edge of two guitars thickened by synth and driven by energetically mechanical drumming and bass. The vocals are on the harsh side, adding bite to their music, and are sung in both english and german. As the band has formed from both trained and novice musicians, there are some loose spots, but generally all holds up well in a strong, melodic sound. T-42's goal is to spread their music around the world by selling their tape on a non-profit basis; certainly reasonable, and the music is more than interesting enough to make it worth the price. (T/PMZ)

**JUNE TABOR AND THE OYSTER BAND**, "Freedom and Rain" (Rykodisc, Pickering Wharf Bldg. C-3G, Salem, MA 01970): A folky British album combining the eclectic electric talents of the Oyster Band with the distinctive full vocals of June Tabor. A mix of new and traditional tunes bringing together cello, accordion and guitars, the result is danceable and poppy sounding folk that should appeal to any folk-rock junkies out there. (CD/MG)

**TARGET**, "Going Up" ($3 from Shakefork Records, 513 Prairie, Downers Grove, IL 60515): Lots of harmonizing guitars on this yellow 7" slab of vinyl. The band goes in for a dense rock sound, with lots of backing vocals, and a slow and steady pace. Skittery lyrics, poetry that's near-opaque and thoroughly heartfelt, characterizes the band—indeed, it's not stretching to see the poetic in the music itself. (45/MG)]

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**TEAR CEREMONY**, "Trickery Dissolves" ($3 from Toddy Gautreau, 741 St. Louis St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802) Goth rock ranging from crooning acoustic melodies accompanied by lude-induced slurred vocals to echoey-reverb synth beat. Nothing hard but lots of ghostly tones and lilting lyrics slipping out of your speakers and pooling on the floor. (T/RS)

**THE TED BUNDYS**, "Kelly Bundy is my Love Goddess" (Anarchy Records, PO Box 506, Lincoln Park, MI 48146): A grungecore cassette that seems devoted to offending people, including those who love music. Besides the title cut, it features "Attack of the Crack Zombies" and a horrible cover of "I Love Living In the City", plus a nasty paean to pornography and death. (T/MG)

**TEENLESBIANS ANDANIMALS**, "Axiom" (Ecto Tapes, 5912 NW 62 Terr., OKC, OK 73122) Eel O. and friends work live and in the studio, assembling synth sounds, beats, manipulated voices, effected guitars and sound effects. The two studio works open with "Flight F.I.N.A.L.", a large and amusing narrative over heavy synth and metronomic beats, describing the non-stop flight to the New Jerusalem, Jesus being the pilot. Similarly, "Media Blaster" humorously deconstructs a 50's UFO movie. The live material is harsher, working with heavy pulsing grooves over which treated sounds and angry vocals are layered, more in the vein of Ministry than the Residents inspired studio work implies. But in either case, T.A. creates an interesting environment of unusual sounds. (T/PMZ)

**TESTAMENT**, "Souls of Black" (Atlantic/Megaforce, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019): Polished medium-big name metal with a nice high-pitched attack to it, well out of the sludge that most bands seem to be murking around in these days. There's plenty of spit and polish and guitars, not to mention a few surprises—like the title song, which actually proves to be an indictment of corporate greed rather than another tedious paean to the devil. (T/MG)

**THEATRE OF ICE**, "Radio Is Going Insane" (Orphanage Records, 1702 W. Camelback Rd. #315, Phoenix, AZ 85015) Opening with "The Gallows Dance," TOI displays their sound as a mixture of high energy guitar against mechanized beats and overdubbed sounds, here built of a laughing gallow crowd eager for death. The first side ends with a table turning pop cover of the Residents "Semolina." A cover of "In-a-Gadda-da-Vida" takes up much of the second side, a modern beat and mildly crazed approach updating this classic. The record ends oddly with latin trumpet and upbeat guitar progressions on "El Soundo Mundo." After a promo buildup of death and horror, this is actually quite mild and even amusing. (7"/PMZ)

**THEE HEADCOATS**, "Heavens to Murgatroyd, Even! It's Thee Headcoats! (Already)" (Sub Pop, 1932 First Ave. #1103, Seattle, WA 98101): Brit garage rock that bounces along with a grungy edge and plenty of fuzz to boot. Billy Childish has turned out an amazing amount of music, and he's still having fun recording "on old cheap instruments, tanked up on old cheap alcohol". It feels like being on the inside of a joke just to listen to this stuff, wondering whether it could be a put-on that such music still exists. Blaring joyousness! (T/MG)

**THEY EAT THEIR OWN**, Self-titled (Relativity Records, 187-07 Henderson Ave., Hollis, NY 11423): This debut CD showcases singer/songwriter Laura B.'s cynical look at most issues: she's in a sanitarium, she's in destructive relationships, everything causes cancer, money brings misery—quick! Someone send this woman to Oz! Sounding like a cross between Joan Jett and an angry Bangle, Laura B.'s solo sing/talk is help up by a tight beat and simultaneous soft and hard guitar playing. Without the talent of the band, however, Laura B. would be stuck with an early 80's sounding mono talk pop. (CD/CG)

**ALAIN THIBAULT**, "Volt" ($18 from Diffusion i Media, 4487 rue Adam, Montreal, Quebec, H1V 1T9, CANADA): Flighty fast-paced instrumental pieces for MINID-assisted piano. Thibault explores such territory as life in the future and the eight circuits of consciousness as outlined by Tim Leary. Some pieces bring in real instruments (a sax quartet for the title cut), others altered vocals, tape loops, and further electronics. It's a whirlwind performance, stunning

Rene Dahinden

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and over much faster than one would expect. A suspension of time in an electronic bottle. (CD/MG) [MA#1087]

**THIRD EYE**, self-titled (Prospective Records, PO Box 6425, Minneapolis, MN 55404): They start with the fundamentals of good rock music: a hook, energy and feedback. They they add in some of punk's roughness...and a little of its aftermath's noiz for good measure. Then just to show they remember their roots, there's a strong nod to the acid pschedelicisms of 60's hard guitar music. (45/CS) [MA#1088]

**THIRD RAIL**, "End It" ($2 from Caffeine Machine Publications, PO Box 11462, Berkeley, CA 94701): Grunge-kill music that sets up long moaning angst-filled songs, with guitars slowly chronicling the end of civilization. Self-hatred, lies, suicide, they're all here, with Sperry on vocals not flinching from anything. Behind hi the band continues to assault the ears, lots of distortion, knuckle-crunching drums, sonic torture. A music for the end of a dying millenium. (LP/MG) [MA#1100]

**THOMPSON'S DISEASE**, "He Tried" ($4 from 6017 Charing St., San Diego, CA 92117): Smooth and crisp post-punk playing that puts me in the mind (musically at least) of All and their ilk. Lyrically, though, they're a bit more depressive, with songs like "Vampiress" and "Mortuary Science". A solid tape that knows its groove and sticks to it. (T/MG) [MA#1089]

**THRENODY & INTO DECLINE**, "Call It What You Will" & "8 to 16" (Baby Faze Records, PO Box 4264, San Francisco, CA 94101) 2 promotional releases on 1 cassette, the 1st side presents Into Decline, a pop rock band using synths and repetetive beats over darkly colored guitar and a somewhat pretentious vocal style. The music has a middle eastern flavor, the guitar carrying the mood and, with the bass, the vigor of these songs. Ultimately though, grandiose synth progressions and beat box drumming mar this, leading what could be a band with a bite into bland sameness. In contrast, Threnody is an interactive band with funky bass grooves and real (if subdued) drummming. Leading with freely flowing or brooding jazz influenced guitar, Winwood-esque vocals sing of personal and emotional concerns. Unfortunately a distant recording quality detracts, making it hard to get a flavor of the implied warmth of this band's material. (T/PMZ)

**THROBMONSTER MC'S**, "Submarine Races" ($3 from Vague Records, PO Box 8511, Warwick, RI, 02888) Songs folding into each other with barely audible pauses between the overly distorted mix of vocal, heavy duty bass and percusion spanning the expanses between rap, hardcore, and funk. Some great tunes such as "Gimme Shelter" about the effort to make the world a better place, but the same beat persists throughout the entirety. (T/RS)

**THE TITANICS**, self-titled (Taang! Records, PO Box 51, Auburndale, MA 02166): Powerful rock music that doesn't take itself too seriously. The sound here reminds me a bit of folks like Huey Lewis, only a lot more raw, before going through the great American music processor. 16 songs in all, including such classic titles as "Stayin' on the Right Side of Satan" and "Stupid Pop Song". (CD/MG) [MA#1090]

**TIT WRENCH**, "Go Back to Europe" ($3.50 from Vinyl Communications, PO Box 8623, Chula Vista, CA 92012) Hyper hardcore-tinged sample crazy work from this California duo, with a host of sampling and noise assists, Tit Wrench spills anger against the abuse of migrant workers by the upper class on "Go Back to Europe." Crunchy and super-energetic, overdubbed voices, weird stretched noises and samples interact with the rapid fire vocals as they take on the Klan, ROTC, clean white kids and the exploitative society, throwing in funny asides at their expense. "Pitbulls with Aids" is less focused but keeps the pace and energy, while "People Like That Should Be Spayed" attacks the Aryan race ideal with "spay 'em unless we ok 'em." Good hard energy with a point while still sensing the frustrated humor in it all. (45/PMZ)

**TODAY WE TOSS CARP**, "Hooyah Picnic" ($5 from Dan Susnara, 7806 S. Kilpatrick, Chicago, IL 60652): Twenty-six songs, homebrewed via four-track recorder. A lot of varied noodling around here, from silly pop to neo-industrial clanking. As a whole it lacks focus, and although there are bright moments, the overall impression is of Dan learning more about playing with his instruments. (T/MG)

**TONES ON TAIL**, self-titled (Beggars Banquet, 274 Madison Ave. #804, New York, NY 10016): This stuff is from a couple of years ago, back when Bauhaus was on its way to mutating into Love and Rockets. Daniel Ash and Kevin Haskins are the key players, along with bassist Glenn Campling. The music they produced is gloomy, a sort of murky pop that maintains a paradoxical cheerful explorativeness. The twenty or so songs here represent a wide range, from polished club hits to what sound like rough takes, perking along, having fun, not taking themselves too seriously. Interesting stuff. (T/MG)

**TOXIC ARMPIT**, "Slash" (T.O.G. Recordings, PO Box 4542, Arlington, VA 22204): A group in the musical mold of Happy Flowers—and indeed, Mr. Anus appears on this tape, with guitar and backing vocals. However, the lyrics are quite different from the carefree songs of childhood—Dr. Borris Oivatka goes in instead of glossolalia, horrible screaming, and endless babbling. Like an industrial record with a handful of four year olds mixed in. (T/MG) [MA#1091]

**TOXODEATH**, "Mysteries About Life & Death" ($10 from Wild Rags Records, 2207 W. Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640): This one starts and ends with a few moments of classical guitar playing—but in between it is pure thrash frenzy. Raul Guzman puts together Renaissance fantasy vocals with dirty grungy guitar playing, backed up by friends on bass and drums—but he pretty well shines alone. A furious-paced release, full of energy, and out to slay some dragons. (LP/MG)

**TRASH CAN SCHOOL**, "One Eyed Car" b/w "Subway Shriek" and "Satan's Favorite Groupie" (Dionysus Records, PO Box 1975, Burbank, CA 91507): Heavy-duty dancing blaring loudmouthed rock with some weird bends to it. Especially good is the last cut, featuring some truly wicked horn playing. Great drums, guitars, oh heck, just listen to it...loud. (EP/MG)

**TROUBLE**, self-titled (Def American, 9157 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069): This band cites Christian and heavy metal influence, but ends up sounding like a low-grade Pink Floyd imitation (the unanimous opinion of listeners here at FF HQ). They may be trying to speak to the kids, but their self-parodic music won't get them anywhere—almost, but not quite, bad enough to be good. Watch for it in the local cut-out bins. (CD/MG)

**TRUBROS**, "Nuclear Reservations" ($5 from Trubros Unlimited, 7 Village Green, Norfolk, MA 02056): This prolific "three-person songwriting collective" does indeed write soaring, memorable, lush pop tunes with a touch of social consciousness. They are encouraging others to use this material, and it does deserve better treatment than the 'bros care to give it. They don't sound much like a band, but they are the golden core with two distinctly contrasting and capable lead vocalists and a nice semi-acoustic guitar sound. Their real talent, however, lies in how they draw on mundane real life in their songwriting and somehow avoid cliche and smarminess to make it sound crisp and lovely, like "The Big C"—everyone knows someone whose mom has died of cancer. "Another Day, Another Due," and "Blues for Central America" are especially lingering tunes. Gentle and strong, this hits me in a soft spot. (T/KF)

**TUNNEL FRENZIES**, "Knee Deep and Wasted" (Probe Plus, 8-12 Rainford Gardens, Liverpool, L2 6PT, UK): Yow! Bad-boy punk screaming lead vocals over an incendiary metal thrash guitar line adds up to something that sounds both modern and classic—if your idea of "classic" extends back to about 1970, that is. 6 songs here that blow by far too quickly, with a breathless enormity to them that can distract from almost any other activity. Mind-blowing. (EP/MG)

**THE ULTRA 5**, demo tape (PO Box 1821, Murray Hill Sta., New York, NY 10156-0610): Retro rock from a foursome that seems to have a bit of range. "Rock-N-Roll Doll" and "Fun" are straightforward rockers, but I rather enjoyed "Satan's Angel", a ballad featuring fine female lead vocals and lyrics that clash strangely with the beauty of the music. Sounds promising. (T/MG)

**ULTRA VIVID SCENE**, "Special One" (Columbia Records, 666 Fifth Ave, P.O. Box 4455, New York, NY 10101-4455): This four-song EP on the 4AD division of CBS/Columbia is getting heavy college airplay. And no wonder—it's artsy, slick, clever, danceable and the title song even features vocals by Kim Deal, who we can expect to be the next Liz Fraser in the hip guest appearance dept. The driving drum track from Led Zep's "When the Levee Breaks" is

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ripped off for the basis of "Kind of a Drag", and to good effect. Decent studio product that suits itself a little too well to heavy target-marketing from the beastly conglomerate. Watch for full page ads in CMJ-like publications everywhere. (EP/KF)

ULTRA VIOLET EYE, "Land of the Free" (Woosh Records, 12130 Mitchell Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066): A somewhat raw three-song demo tape from a band that shows a bit of promise. The gritty melodic playing and layers of noise put me in the mind of some early sixties greats, drug down kicking and screaming to the bruised nineties. Slightly psychedelic post-punk with a chip on the shoulder edge that's quite appealing. (T/MG)

UMCLUNK, "The Antidote" (27459 W. River Rd., Perrysburg, OH 43551): Improvisational material that is clearly rock rather than jazz, based around guitars and keyboards but with plenty of drum action as well. It takes them a while to build up a head of steam, but once they do, there's a freeform psychedelic energy here that is quite attractive. The piece ended abruptly, leaving me wanting more—which is not a bad thing for a band to do. (T/MG)

UNCLE FESTER "Feast of Treason" ($5 from Eleutheros Productions, PO Box 2265, Albany, NY 12220): Public service announcements and folksongs of Situationism militant. The PSA's are often quite effective—Rooney vs. Nietzsche & The Vampire Christ being particularly snazzy. Generally these are in the "haute cuisine" style of French rhetoric, which often adds, perhaps unintentionally, to their humor. The songs are, though musically unprepossessing, powerful and poetic statements of the "Destroy Civilisation and Fuck in the Ruins" philosophy. A high point here was the ode to Film Stuntman fatalities, a dark, dense postpunk tribute to martyrs of the Spectacle in its cheapest and shallowest form. (This last has to be played on a big system to come through clearly.) In all, this is just the thing to play on your college radio station or splice into a compilation tape, a remarkable piece of playful creation. (T/JR)

UNCLE TUPELO, "No Depression" (Rockville Records, PO Box 800, Rockville Centre, NY 11571): Roots rock that has an honest downhome ring to it as well as good solid guitar playing. While the title cut is the highlight, they go in for a lot of songs about poverty and hapless criminals and so on—stuff that could be country if it wasn't played with such fevered energy. Well-met and polished music that makes coming from the roots something to be proud of. (CD/MG) [MA#1092]

URBAN DANCE SQUAD, self-titled (Arista Records Inc., Arista Building, 6 W. 57th St., New York, NY, 10019) The ultimate combination of rap, funk, metal, noise, and good old r&r. This five member band most often is compared to both The Red Hot Chili Peppers and Living Colour. A great alternative to the latest splash of house music for those that like to dance, and you'll sweat for sure. (T/RS)

UYA, "Upstanding Young Americans" ($12 from Voidville Records, PO Box 191, MIT Branch, Cambridge, MA 02139): Ballsy punk-noise-jazz from a good-humored Boston-based quartet. New Orleans street music, hard-edged rock and straight-ahead jazz all rear their heads in this eclectic collection. Imagine Charles Mingus meets the Sex Pistols, 2 Live Crew and The Dirty Dozen Brass Band. Got it? (CD/WM)

THE VAGRANTS, self-titled (Lookout Records, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Equal parts goth, drama, garage and rock and roll. All powered by a driving intensity and a burning energy. Though there's only three songs, but they stand out to make as much of an impact as if they were an album's worth of material. (45/CS)

VALENTINE, self-titled (Giant Records, 345 N. Maple Dr. #205, Beverly Hills, CA 90210): This is the sort of arena-rock polish that one doesn't hear from the indies (and this one is in face distributed by Warner/Reprise). It's lush, it's full, it sounds like they threw a lot of money at it in the studio. And despite this, the mix of light metal and hard rock here just doesn't excite or catch fire. Plastic music. (T/MG)

VANILLA TRAINWRECK, "Galvanized" b/w "Picturing" (Otis Records, 412 Robin Hood Dr., Raleigh, NC 27604): Hot-dawg fast-paced rock with a lot of fun-sounding enthusiasm behind it. The band is completely anonymous here, except for their guitars, but judging by the happy face skull and crossbones on the front cover, they don't take themselves too seriously. They do manage to turn out a pair of hopping tunes, a welcome blast of noise from an increasingly important new music area. On white vinyl, appropriately enough. (45/MG)

**Various Artists**, "Arrhythmia" ($12 from Charnel House Productions, PO Box 170277, San Francisco, CA 94117-0277): A compilation of music depending heavily on percussion, rhythm, and sometimes sheer industrial pounding, from the tribal to the pomo. Contributors include IAO Core, Master/Slave Relationship, and the new to me memento mori, an interesting batch of experimentalists. 16 tracks in all, something to trance out to for over an hour. (CD/MG) [MA#1093]

**Various Artists**, "BAN THIS...we need the press" (Sheisterfest Records, 129 Lindsey Ct., Franklin Park, NJ 08823): A compilation of unsigned bands from New Jersey, most somewhere in the rock arena. Somehow it was no surprise to me to find that the song I liked the best, "Eddie V." (a bit of sardonic rock humor), came from Dave and the Rave. Other fine tracks come from Steward Brodian, Dr. Bombay, Whirling Dervishes and The Breathers. (T/MG)

**Various Artists**, "Bonfire in the Boneyard - 1990" ($4.99 from Evios Empire Productions, PO Box 6904, E Grand Rapids, MI 49516) This radio program collects submissions by independent bands and provides them free to any

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This show looks at the independent artist in N. America through their words and music. It also includes interviews with journalists who cover these unrestricted musicians. Since 1987 the 'Bonfire' series has been released on cassette and sent to college, independent, pirate stations and subscribers around the globe.

Marlon Michaels and Evios Empire Productions are currently seeking submissions for the next 'Bonfire' as well as a new production called 'The Art of War'

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interested radio station. A tape is also available, its sale representing part of EEP's operating budget. The goals of Bonfire are not to judge, but to let the listeners decide for themselves; to this end, each band's cut is punctuated with interview segments, introducing the individuals and their views. This tape presents 7 bands, all interesting in this format, though the works of Tang S'Dang, Opiate of the Masses and Traffic in Oceans particularly appealed. An excellent show with admirable goals. (T/PMZ)

**Various Artists**, "Can I Go to Heaven Now?" (10 DM/$6 from Samar Kraidi, Wupperstr. 80, 5000 Koln 40, W. Germany) This international comp takes on mostly hardcore bands, presenting politically and socially concious attitudes. The booklet included dedicates a page to each of the bands, providing lyrics, contacts and explanations. Of the 17 bands on the tape, standouts include the almost Fall-like pop hardcore of Hate That Smile; the rich alternate rock sound of Sink; the anger of Rebellenbut; the Lene Lovitch inspired Nanook (though sound quality is poor); and the Samiam-like HDQ. Breaking out of the mold, Sack provides a latin feeling in "Flat Frog," and Roaring Jack provides my favorite cuts of the tape (though out of place) with their pointed, persuasive and intelligent Scottish influenced folk music. On a chrome 90 minute tape, a well presented comp. (T/PMZ)

**Various Artists**, "Celebrate the Sonic Arts" (Ima Hitt Records, PO Box 407, New Plymouth, NEW ZEALAND): We tend to think of New Zealand being full of nice melodic bands, folks who show up on Flying Nun and become darlings of college radio. This compilation is not like that at all. Rather, featuring bands like Electric Church, Piece of Cod and Johnny Lead Fingers and the Phantom Rockers From Hell, it's a medley of loud guitars, aggravated assault via drums, deadly vocals and in short the hardest parts of hard rock. Just goes to show that sonic overload is one of the universal languages. (LP/MG)

**Various Artists**, "City of L.A.: POWER" (Flipside Records, PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): This black-and-blue picture disk duplicates the manhole cover that provided the name for the album. For music, it's solid, high-energy punk from an even ten of L.A.'s hottest new bands (this is the first release for several). Prime tracks come from the Creamers, L7, Bad Religion, and Trash Can School. The scene is definitely still alive! (LP/MG)

**Various Artists**, "CMP'ler 1" (CMP Records, 155 W. 72nd St. #704, New York, NY 10023): CMP is a German label specializing in contemporary instrumental music. Such a description usually makes me cringe in fear of New Age sleepy-stuff, but this collection, for the most part, has balls and integrity. Standout cuts include the jazz-oriented "Guinea" by tenor saxophonist Marty Fogel and a kind of updated Ramsey-Lewis style piano on "Cannonball" by Joachim Kuhn, Saxophonists Christoph Lauer and David Liebman both have strong offerings, the former with a smokin' Coltrane-type romp on "Descent" while the latter performs unaccompanied duets. Fusions of world musics and jazz rock are another specialty of the label. Percussionist Trilok Gurtu's "Shobharok", featuring the esteemed Don Cherry on trumpet, is a lot of fun. Strong musics, I think I'll keep this one. (CD/WM)

**Various Artists**, "Doomsday News III" (Noise, 5 Crosby St., New York, NY 10013): A quartet of heavy duty metal bands, recorded live in East Berlin. Kreator, Tankard, Sabbat and Coroner can all grind it out, with guitar and growls to go with the best of them. Lyrics are mainly in English and not especially deep—but then, that's not unusual for metal. Certainly the origin and liveliness of this performance make it an interesting item. (CD/MG)

**Various Artists**, "Duck and Cover" (SST Records, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): A somewhat silly collection of cover tunes from the SST roster. Black Flag demolishes "Louie Louie", Husker Du presents a terrible version of "Eight Miles High", and the Minutemen have their way with "Ain't Talkin' 'Bout Love". Other contributors include Trotsky Icepick, the Meat Puppets, volcano Suns and Saccharine Trust. (CD/MG)

**Various Artists**, "Dude You Rock" (Triple X Records, 6715 Hollywood Blvd. #284, Hollywood, CA 90028): A collection of aggressive rock tracks, lots of howling guitars, powerful vocals. Among the groups featured are Lithium X-Mas, Rigor Mortis, Decadent Dub Team and Three On a Hill. A grunge-fest for the lover of loud music. (CD/MG)

**Various Artists**, "Gajoob Magazine" ($3 from APT, PO box 3201, Salt Lake City, UT 84110) A very cool tape serving the basic funtion of a compilation giving a sampling of various works from around the world. Addresses of each band's contact are given so that you may contact them individually, according to your likes. A great thing to get in the mail, so write and reap the benefits from the network of underground cassette culture. (T/RS)

**Various Artists**, "Guardian of the Amazon" ($4 from Brad Mitchell, 3187 Keynes Ct., Mississauga, ONT, L5N 2Z7, CANADA): A benefit comp put together by the publisher of SKULL SESSION, with the proceeds going to the World Wildlife Fund. Mostly hardcore, it features songs from 20 bands, including Sockeye, Klusterfux, Sanity Assassins and Negative Stance. Includes a booklet of blunt facts about environmental damage. (T/MG)

**Various Artists**, "Japan Bashing Vol.2" (Public Bath, PO Box 2134, Madison, WI 53701) The 2nd Bashing volume introduces two more bands from the Japanese underground. The 1st is Subvert Blaze, a power trio playing an extended 70's grungey "Butterfly" with nasty vocals and a dense bass heavy sound that breaks into an extended jam. The 2nd presents Playmate, and all girl group also rooted in the 70's. Their opener "Upside Down" is a heavy tune, showing that these girls can rock, though some of their riffs seem to be copped from Lynyrd Skynyrd. "Life Is Never Too Short," however, comes off poppier and contrived, ending in a fade. Though not as exciting as Volume 1's Boredoms plus, Public Bath is the place to become familiar with the Japanese subculture. (7"/PMZ)

**Various Artists**, "Keltia; The Dirty Linen Sampler, Vol.1" (Dirty Linen, PO Box 66600, Baltimore, MD 21239-6600) This particular tape is an example of the perfect compilation, exhibiting excellent musicianship, understanding of instrumentalization, and a need to play. Eight groups and individuals playing American celtic-flavored music that ranges from an all acoustic format to a unique mixture of electronic and traditional instruments, not unlike some of Jethro Tull's combinations. Soulful ballads are juxtaposed with upbeat pub tunes, all of which will pull away at your roots if you happen to be a WASP and probably even if you're not. (T/RS)

**Various Artists**, "A Kinder Gentler Genocide" (2.50 from Wasted Effort, 99 Calumet St., Boston, MA, 02120) A Benefit 7" to help out CEASE (Citizens to End Animal Suffering and Exploitation) who are currently trying to outlaw a cruel land trap and prevent a massive deer hunt on a wildlife preserve. Four bands are represented, Cabal, The Creeps, Rasberry Bang, and Egg. Cruelty Free Shopping Guide is given as an insert. (T/RS)

**Various Artists**, "Panx Vinyl Zine" (Panx, BB 5058, 31033 Toulousse, Cedex, France): A raw, rough, brashly energetic collection of hardcore music. Panx comes out every two months—a vinyl EP and an accompanying brochure, and it's proof positive that the hardcore spirit is still alive and well. This particular offering is mostly hard/harsh thrash inspired music, standard fare as far as execution goes, but served up with a double helping of zest to compensate for it. (45/CS)

**Various Artists**, "Ripoff International Vols. I-IV" ($1.75 per tape from Chris Caggiano, 1757 Grove St. #1, Ridgewood, NY 11385): Bootleg re-taped cover songs by various punk and hardcore bands. The concept reveals that bands like The Nervous Eaters have some reverence for musical history, with songs like "The Times They Are A-Changin'," "Singin In The Rain," and "Jailhouse Rock." Taping is very muddy. (4T/CG)

**Various Artists**, "Sonic Delights Sampler #1" (Sonic Delights, PO Box 332, South Orange, NJ 07079): A mixed bag of mostly rock and folk numbers compiled from existent releases on the above label. The songs on this tape seem mostly on the lighter side of things with some of the outfits dipping a bit into whackier waters. All the recordings are at home ventures and all indicate a high level of craftsmanship and integrity. Also, drop Sonic Eric a note for a free catalog of offerings. (T/JCM)

**Various Artists**, "Taste Test #1" (New Alliance Records, PO Box 1389, Lawndale, CA 90260) Live recordings from LA's KXLU "Brain Cookies" show, as recorded on Splat Winger's ghetto blaster. Most of the recordings sound very good, though a few verify the source as described. Overall the two records provide an excellent cross section of alternative music, framed by Firehose and D. Boon & The Stone Puppies cuts, between which Freshly Wrapped Candies, Roger Miller (the Burma man), Screaming Trees (covering Creem), Paper Bag, Deborah Exit, 5UU's (Recommended Records), Universal Congress Of, Crimony and others are presented. Spoken cuts from Brothers Awest, Wanda Coleman and D. Boon fill out the record, which has something of interest for just about anyone. (2LP/PMZ)

**Various Artists**, "There Where the Avalanche Stops" ($20 *CASH* from Touch, 13 Osward Road, London SW17 7SS, ENGLAND): A lovely addition to the Touch library of fine ethnic music. This CD is selected from performances at the Gjirokastra Folk Festival, which happens in Albania once every five years. In addition to traditional folk musics, there are also such songs as "Blessed Albania, Her Leadership Illuminates Her Road", but since no one I know can understand the lyrics it hardly matters. Whirling dervish music, lots of vocal interchange, and high spirits throughout. (CD/MG) 1094

**Various Artist**, "Where's Stanton Park?" (Stanton Park Records, PO Box 58, Newtonville, MA 02160) Boston has some great little known bands, and this comp consistently and excellently demonstrates the harder edge of the scene. Hard rocking bands like Bulkhead, with two cuts of strength and suprising sounds, 8 Ball with their heroin hardcore, or Green Magent School's edgey dark distortions, are mixed in with the driving sitar psychedelia of Drumming on Glass, or the melodic reservations of Foul Balls. Arf Arf is also represented, Willie Alexander contributing a piano based rocker, and Space Negro Lindgren one of Lee West's 4 Commandments. Red Wagon, The Voodoo Dolls, Medicine Ball and Johnny and the Jumpercables fill out the record, which in all provides a proper introduction to the alternative Boston scene. (T/PMZ)

VELVET CRUSH, "If Not True" b/w "One Thing Two Believe" (The Bus Stop Label, P.O. Box 3161, Iowa City, IA 52244-3161): Ordinariness is supposed to work as the charm here: that "AM radio pop in a perfect world" kinda thing. The Bus Stop Label folks have gone through the trouble to make this 7" a genuine retro homage, complete with so-ordinary-it's-extraordinary clip art on the bright yellow label. Velvet Crush do a fine job of endearing the era of Big Star and the Raspberries themselves. This cute and polished effort is pure pop for people remorselessly obsessed with the past. (45/KF)

VELVET MONKEYS, "Rake" (Rough Trade, 611 BroaDWay #311, New York, NY 10012): Wild looselipped throwback sloppy soundtrack rock and roll. With folks like Thurston Moore and Julia Cafritz lending their support to Don Fleming's project, the result is instant camp, music that rings bells of recognition in the brain even before it's played. Drink, do drugs, celebrate and play this music *loud*. (CD/MG)

TONY VENTURA, "Shakin' In Our Boots" (1140 E. Rendleman, Carbondale, IL 62901): A mild reggae song tied to a current event which, because of the FF schedule, is now past—the earthquake some people predicted for December 3rd. It's still a fun little number, which makes light of the whole subject and goes from quake to dancehall and back. (T/MG)

**VERTIGO BUS**, "Departure in Triplicate" (Crash Helmet Productions, PO Box 20691, Broadway Sta., Seattle, WA 98102) Seattle's Patty Herlevi presents 3 songs of instrospectiveness and charm at a relaxed pace. The music is based on acoustic guitar, supported by warm bass and programmed drums, and, on "Broken Face Mythology," violin. What characterizes these songs best is the mature childlike quality of Herlevi's voice, similar to Kristin Hirsh (Throwing Muses), at once darkly expressive and pleasantly simple. With feeling she sings of emotions and autonomy in "Green Eye Moss Stare" and Mythology, while "Nevada" is described in upbeat iconic imagery. Jack Endino's production warmly mixes the results, creating a pleasant and thoughtful set of songs. (T/PMZ)

**VIDNA OBMANA**, "Near the Flogging Landscape" (Violet Glass Oracle Tapes, 5546 Harvest Lane, Apt. B, Toledo, OH 43623): Marvelous electronic music embodying Brian Eno's ambient aesthetic: the dense, subtle wash of sound can function either actively or passively, depending on your brainset. Not only are these aural passages composed of fascinating multi-layered textures, but the cumulative effect is not entirely unlike those positive environmental vibes so aggressively marketed by crappy new age synth-meisters. Vidna Obmana (is that some crazy anagram or what?) eschews the standard complement of electronic bells and whistles for a set of personally-tailored atmospheric components. Excellent quality Dolby B chrome cassette. (T/KS)

**THE VISIGOTHS**, "Full Treament" (Presto! Records, PO Box 1081, Lowell, MA 01853): Boston club-based rock and roll in a pretty traditional mode—think Yardbirds for a reference. A lot of the lyrics remind me more of C&W, songs like "Truckload of Misery" and "Was It Something I Said?" Best bet is the rocking, hopping "Hey Messy Nessi (Where'd You Get Those Clothes?)". (CD/MG)

**VOMIT LAUNCH**, "Mr. Spench" (Rough Trade, 611 Broadway, Suite 311, NY, NY 10012) For a band whose name was almost Truckload of Fuckers, this is suprisingly pretty, though with a warped sense of humor. The band is sophisticated and energetic, stressing interplay in a textured sound shifting from delicate to driving, from clean to distorted. Over this Patricia, voice melodic if a bit thin, sings about hospital blunders, dog sauce and the like, occasionally growling but generally controlled. However, it's that control that bothers me: somehow the band seems subdued, as though on best behavior. I get the impression that live this rips, a song like "Kill the Bouncer" taking the roof off. Here you never feel the power I suspect is seething below, though there's plenty in Vomit Launch's skewed excellence to satisfy. (LP/PMZ)

**VOMITO NEGRO**, "Human" (Cargo, PO Box 9055, 7741 Drury Ln., La Jolla, CA 90238-9055): A techno-electronic dance record that's actually pretty catchy. Vomito Negro has been at this for a few years now, producing harsh sounds that combine the clangour of industrial with the smoothness and repetition of dance music. It takes some getting used to, but proves to be good listening. (LP/MG)

**VON MAGNET**, "El Sexo Surrealista" (Danceteria, 24 rue chantilly, 49100 Angers, FRANCE): Disco-electronic dance music, which blends together such unlikely sources as saxophone, various synthetic sounds, and flamenco guitar. The music flows smoothly, sounding alien and exotic without being plastic and predictable. Vocal harmonies dance in and out as the fast beats pull you relentlessly on. (LP/MG)

**VOODOO GLOWSKULLS**, "The Old of Tomorrow ep" (6871 Eaglerock Dr, Riverside, CA 92505) 6 song ep from this California hardcore band of fast noisey guitar riffs, a rap-like harsh vocal style and short metal sounding solos. This is apparently a family band- 3 of the 4 are Casillas', drummer O'neill the outsider- and though they play tightly enough, this is indistinguishable from a host of similar CA bands: neither good nor bad, just loudly there. (EP/PMZ)

**WALKING DISTANCE**, "Industria Brasileira" ($3 from Scott Munroe, PO Box 375, Fairfield, CT 06430): A recent tape demo by a rock project of Scott Munroe (remember A. Dying Gymnast) which draws inspiration from late 70's Wire and mid 80's NYC tough stuff. Though it might not grab your attention immediately the punk styled arrangements work on one's head after repeated plays. (T/JCM)

**WANTON LOVEBOY**, "A Million Stars Above" b/w "Bumblebee", "Into the Sea" ($4 from Cubist Productions, 3408 Juliet St, Pittsburgh, PA 15213) Wanton Loveboy is David Jordan and Andy Katz, who play a host of wonderfully silly pop guitar and bass cliches over drum programs. The vocals are purposely distanced, singing pleasant oddities about looking down into the fresh clean air from the ladder reaching into the sky, or lines like "never chase a bumblebee, 'cause it'll only bring you sorrow." A solidly silly, skewed and unpretentious bit of fun to scratch your head and smile at. (7"/PMZ)

**WATCHING ALICE**, "Retro Blvd." ($3 from Chance, 13801 S. Cedar #1, Westminster, CA 92683-3836): Proudly sporting a Parental Advisory label, this is straight-ahead rock and roll with just a touch of wisecracking cynicism to make it still cool. Crisp acoustic guitar highlights several cuts, and the very Replacements-esque "Doll Hut Slut" is prefaced with a bit of drunken debauchery, just so we can be sure of where they're coming from—out of a disastrous romance and onto the bar stool. Often very conventional (as in the guitar-solo department), it's just as often daring, especially lead singer Chance's performance. Jane's Addiction they are not, but Watching Alice has only been a band since March—better to watch where they take things from here. This good quality tape is quite the bargain, too. (T/KF)

**WEEDEATER**, "Get The Job Done" ($3 from Shakefork, 513 Prairie, Downers Grove, IL 60515): All the varieties of metal, starting out with slow and sludgy on the A side and speeding up to not-quite thrash by the end. Generally they've got a hard, NYC-reminiscent sound, full of lyrical slagging for people who do stupid things or don't fight hard enough. A headbanging record designed to bring tears of blood to your forehead. (EP/MG)

**WHITE PRIDE**, self-titled (PO Box 2012, Tempe, AZ 85280): According to the label, this group started as a joke designed to piss off everyone with their brand of racist punk. Well, it's a lousy joke, but they are pretty high in offensiveness, so I guess they succeeded. Pressed on stark white vinyl, this includes the band's eponymous theme, as well as "Illegal Aliens" (suggesting they should go back where they came from), "There Goes The Neighborhood", and a few other songs. Poor taste indeed. (EP/MG)

**P.D. WILSON**, "Waterworlds" ($4 from 2108 15th Ave., Phenix City, AL 36807): The expanded version of Wilson's synthetic magnum opus—expanded a bit too far, as at ninety minutes there's not enough going on here to hold the interest. It starts out liquid and sweet, but then moves into Halloween scariness and ends up in some weird twittering sonic outlands. (T/MG) [MA#1095]

**CHRIS WIND** "The Art of Juxtaposition" ($8.50 from Chris Wind, R.R. #1, Sundridge, Ontario, Canada, POA1ZO) Chris does indeed possess the art of juxtaposition as she dredges up the problems of the treatment of women, the elderly, Indians, the media and many others. She somehow fits all of this into the format of nursery rhymes, show tunes, hymns and so on. Sometimes it makes you laugh and sometimes it makes you nauseous; in any event, you should buy two- one for yourself, and one to send to your congressman. Although the contents pertain to Canada, they most definitely fit the U.S.'s situation as well. (T/RS)

**THE WOLVERTON BROTHERS**, "Sucking Hind Tit" (Okra Records, 1992 B North High St., Columbus, OH 43201): Okar, as some of you may know, is one of the most slimy disgusting vegetables around; somehow it seems fitting that the Wolverton Brothers record on this label. Basically cutesy self-conscious country twang punk, fronted by a vocalist who, it seems, must have been whapped in the crotch with a two by four out behind the barn. it's just too bad they didn't finish him off. If you liked the Gibson Brothers, you'll love this. (LP/MG)

**W.O.O.**, "Telescope" (Vital Music Records, 81 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003): Improvisational music that's closer to punk than to jazz despite the frequent inclusion of Bonnie Kane's sax tracks. Glenn Sorvisto is the other ringleader here, pounding the drums and issuing bizarre vocals. Extremely unstructured jams, frequently losing their momentum and trailing off, seemingly unconcerned with whether the listener is following, this left the listeners in the FF office pretty cold. (CD/MG)

**THE WORKING MAN'S DON KNOTTS**, self-titled ($2 from Dave Schall, PO Box 2143, Stow, OH 44224): These bizarre little so-bad-they're-cool pickup bands still seem to flow out of Dave's outfit, Wheelchair Full of Old Men Tapes, at a steady clip. Besides the doe to Don Knotts, this acoustic guitar and harmony mix includes and endlessly reprised lament about beanbag chairs, some minor obscenity, and "The Bad Breath Song". Pretty kitsch. (T/MG)

**WWAX**, "Like It Or Not" ($6 from Merge Records, PO Box 1235, Chapel Hill, NC 27514): This North Carolina punk trio is outta business now. Too bad, because their four sides of music here are all catchy, hoppy, and fun. They jam on false endings, rapidfire tempo changes, choppy guitars, and crazed vocals like there's no tomorrow, blasting ahead through uncharted waters with a sense of destiny. Good range, good music, good coda. (2EP/MG)

**YOUNG FRESH FELLOWS**, "Two Guitars Bass and Drums" b/w "Someone I Care About" (Pravda Records, 3728 N. Clark, Chicago, IL 60613): Two great melodic rock songs that can get anybody remembering the rush of hearing new music on the radio back in the good old days. They ain't slick, just sincere, and they pound out these tunes in engaging fashion. A record that holds well, even when played repeatedly at high volume. Nice organ touches on the B side, too. (45/MG)

**BOB Z. and RED SKELETON**, "Spaceshot" ($4 from PO Box 28, 2336 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94115): The best thing about Bob Z.'s liner notes is that they explain the content of the lyrics; not the cryptic lyrics themselves. If only more musical artists would do this...It makes easier to appreciate what's being heard—and there is much to hear here. Mostly guitar and drum accompaniment, these are Bob's solo musical rants on the state of modern society. Bob is clearly pissed off at the atrocities of our culture, including scum on the shore, the "terrifying void" of reality, the chains of tradition and the phoniness of "artists.". A musical zine of rage. (T/CG)

**HAROLD SACK ZIEGLER**, "Zehn Meter langes Regal Kippte Um" (Scheisskasten producke c/o Harold Sack Ziegler, Eupener Str. 42 D-5000 Koln, 41, Germany): Artsy, soft-focus music and sound combinations. If Phillip Glass or Brian Eno had grown up an Alpine peasant boy with a taste for the eclectic and the bizarre. (T/CS)

**ZOMBIE BIRDHOUSE**, "Black and White" ($5 from 473 Alexander St., Rochester, NY 14605): Fun pop that slides over into harder things on one end and near ballads on the other. The organ work is full of hooks, churning Tex-Mex and folky themes together for an original, upbeat sound. Some of the lyrics, though, take an unexpected serious turn—"Mary's In a Coma" being the prime example. (T/MG) [MA#1096]

ZZAJ, "Rogue Sea Merchant 'Stew'" ($6 from Dick Metcalf, HHC, 19th SUPCOM, PO Box 2879, APO San Francisco, CA 96218): The Rogue Sea Merchant tapes feature Metcalf jamming with other musicians in a live studio setting. The result wanders from jazz to big band to "Taps", ever mutating, liquid tunes, heavy on the synthesizer but not overly electronic. A mellow tape for an evening of relative quiet. (T/MG)

## MUSIC NOTES

•**109 Records** (Kristen Johnson, PO Box 2639, Peter Stuyvesant Sta., New York, NY 10009) is looking for new anti-folk music for an upcoming compilations. Send tape along with SASE for its return. They say they're looking for "radical, quirky, offensive, grungy, insane Go-Man-Go type characters".

•**Aural Mural Music** (Box 2602, Campus Station, Socorro, NM 87801) sent a catalog of their releases, industrial and experimental for the most part. A couple of stamps should land a copy.

•**Autonomy Tapes** (c/o Volxkuche, Jugendhaus "Insel", Beim Bscheid 1, D-7900 Ulm, WEST GERMANY) is a non-profit tape and zine distribution service with all money raised going to support political prisoners. Send a couple IRCs for their price list.

•**Disgruntled Employees** (Sverre H. Kristensen, Agtrupvej 109 1.tv., DK-6000 Kolding, DENMARK) is collecting material for a spoken word compilation and one of phone pranks.

•**DM Newsletter** (PO Box 58152, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8152) is free on request to all fans of the Dead Milkmen.

•**Drape** (Plutinium Press, PO Box 61564, Phoenix, AZ 85082) is a compilation project seeking "the garbled drone of a drunken poet, the shattering of the silence with an electric potato peeler, the rhythmic sounds of the garbage disposal converting Sundays dinner into a thick paste". Submit by March 31, 1991 on Chrome tape with SASE.

•**Elderly Instruments** 1100 N. Washington, PO Box 14210, Lansing, MI 48901) publishes a whole mess of catalogs for the contemporary musician; one of the latest is wall to wall electric instruments and accessories, yours for $2.

•**The International Tapetraders List** is maintained by Kris Verreth (Tervuursestwg 1H, 1820 Perk, BELGIUM). It lists dozens of people along with their wants and offerings, and includes a set of blacklist addresses to help you avoid ripoff artists. You can get a copy for $1 CASH (no IRCS!).

•**Thee Midnight Streets** (118 E. Goodheart Ave., Lake Mary, FL 32746) is a cassette compilation seeking music and spoken words on "Gothic morbidity".

## IN THE ATTIC OF THE ALTNEUSCHUL IN THE HOLY COMMUNITY OF RENSSELAER LIES A MOTIONLESS NEAR-HUMAN FORM...

The Golem of Verlag Golem, tireless Johnny-fac-totum of the Moorish Science Monitor and the Verlag Golem Catalogue, reposes its great clay limbs, almost more heap than human to behold. On its forehead the first of the Hebrew letters that labelled it into life is effaced. Rebbe Jacob, its master, reads from Tehillim in a tuneless whine and smiles his dyspeptic smile. Pointing to the booklets that litter the room he begins to giggle . Out of politeness to the Hacham he once was, you look them over, silently resolving to buy at least one to help the old fellow out. They are:

THE SUPERSOUL HONKING BLUES LOOSELEAF BIBLE by Debbi Schwartz-Doppelganger. History of the universe from the Creation to the death of Joseph. Compiled from authentic and inauthentic sources. SF Midrashology.$2.

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LOVE AND LEVITATION by Ya'akov Dovid HaNavi. Visions of Christianity revealed to a contemporary Hebrew Prophet, "the spy who came in from the Old Testament." Always free.

HOW? (i.e., The Book of Lamentations,) The ultimate Hebrew exploration of the concept of Suffering. The "Lear" of it's time and place. Translated from the Hebrew. $2.

All Verlag Golem Publications are sent free to prisoners and unmonied persons,

(In case you hadn't figured it out, these are actually all written by Jacob Rabinowitz, and available from him at 1588 5th St., Rensselaer, NY 12144. )

•**Pegasus Tapes** (PO Box 419, Santa Ysabel, CA 92070) distributes tapes of noted astrologers, so you can learn about the science at your leisure. Looks like they'll send a catalog on request.

•**Poison Plant** (7 Woodsend Pl., Rockville, MD 20854), purveyors of fine electronic music, have a new catalog out, yours for the asking.

•**Radio USA** (PO Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895) sent a tape of a couple of their broadcasts. This pirate radio station has been in business since 1983, but we're not reviewing it because they don't sell shows—you have to catch them on the air (try around 7400 on weekends, 2200-0600 GMT). However, they'd love to hear from punk bands with taped interviews to air, and would also appreciate music to play and even will sell you advertising—write for rates.

•**The Retrofuturist's Real Life Audio Compilation** is looking for snippets of audio from your life, whether ambient, spoken word, or whatever. Deadline is February 28, 1991; send to PO Box 227, Iowa City, IA 52244.

•**Paul Rydeen** (PO Box 537-VAMC, Tuskegee, AL 36083) is looking for tapes of Psychic TV, Current 93, Coil, Sleep Chamber, Nurse with Wound and so on to swap for or possibly buy.

•RHYTHM ACTIVISM (3699 Hutchison, Montreal, PQ, H2X 2H4, CANADA) is a duo that plays "Slavonic hard core, Polish mountain medlies, tangos, rap and more". You can get their fall newsletter for a buck (I guess) or an album for $8.

•You can get a list of zines that list people who trade tapes by writing to **V.I.V.O.** (PO Box 537-VAMC, Tuskegee, AL 36083); sending an SASE would probably be a good idea.

•**Voluminous Wag Records** (1832 Portland Ave. #4, St. Paul, MN 55104-6066) is putting together a compilation of coffee-related music and invites submissions.

•**WBRS** is the student radio station at Brandeis (415 South St., Waltham, MA 02254-9110). Their playlist is more into analysis than listing actual records played, but interesting for all of that.

•**WHRB Program Guide** (45 Quincy St., Cambridge, MA 02138) is free on request. Being from Harvard, this college radio station is somewhat difference, with lots of classical and jazz in the works.

•**WKDI** (544 College Ave., Dekalb, IL 60115) is a college radio station that sends out regular playlists with a bit of indie action.

## SPOKEN WORD

BOB BLACK, "Live at the Club Lower Links," b/w JOHN HAGEN-BRENNER, "Live at US District Court" ($5.00 from PO Box 2159, Albany, NY 12220): Yes, folks, Bob Black in all his splendid glory performing live in Chicago. In this cassette Bob performs some new material in addition to some older, more familiar stuff. John Kelly also makes an appearance. While it's fun to hear some of Bob's musings and stories, for the most part he demonstrates that, as a live performer, Bob is a great writer. Special bonus insert includes court recording of John Hagen-Brenner pleading guilty to sending flashbulbs and firecrackers to Bob Black. Bomb Bob Black, sheep. (T/KL)

CASSETTE WRESTLING NEWS #41 ($3 from PO Box 765, Boonville, IN 47601): A steady and enjoyable wrestling bulletin on tape. Jeff Osborne does a good job of keeping things light while still getting into some serious business. This issue has an interview with Eddie Gilbert, who proves to be articulate and interesting, and an invitiation to submit wrestling poetry on tape for future versions. (T/MG)

WANDA COLEMAN, "High Priestess of Word" (New Alliance Records, PO Box 1389, Lawndale, CA 90260): Strong spoken-word from an accomplished poet, with a bit of jazz piano accompaniment on a few tracks. Coleman writes of life as a black woman growing up in LA, talking about the racism of toys, the insidiousness of prejudice, and the strange state of relations between the sexes. No punches pulled here, with some anger and sorrow tempered by rare moments of joy. Poetry in an idiom from the heart. (CD/MG)

DRIFT #8 ($2 (?) from C.F. Kennedy, 424 - 280 Dundas E., Toronto, ONT, M5A 3W1, CANADA): Another audio issue of this oddball Canadian litmag. There aren't any credits with the tape, but the best piece here is a mad narrative about a Mysterious Stranger who walks into a bar and ends up destroying the universe—for the tape listener as well as the narrator! Bits of music, musings about living on the front lines of the war of poverty, and other spoken words all mix together. Recording quality is pretty marginal in spots, though. (T/MG)

EG THE POET, "Our Heavenly Father's Plan" ($4.15 money order from TPOS Productions, 12 Mill Plain Rd, Danbury, CT 06811) What starts out hopefully as a series of connected stories, each 'reminding' the teller of the succeeding while interspersed with music and songs, degenerates from interesting opaqueness to long pointless jokes. The music between is a rambling collection of poor quality, stupidly smug exhibitionist clowning. But the final sheltered confession of desire to hit a women for sexual gratification I can not sympathize with, regardless of the self-satisfied justifications, and this very long description negatively colors my perception of the entire tape. (T/PMZ)

FISH DRUM #7: SIX POETS ($5 from 626 Kathryn Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87501): Half a dozen of Santa Fe's fine poets read their own work here, in a well-produced and intimate tape. High on my list is Miriam Sagan, who as always dazzles with imagery. Leo Romero is new to me but now I'll watch out for him; the Indian/Chicano poems here are perfect for the dry dusty southwest. Joan Logghe is fine with ancestral reminiscences, Nathaniel Tarn provides intricate word textures, John Brandi and Anne Valley Fox also contribute work. (T/MG) [MA#1097]

**GOING GAGA #7** ($4 from Gareth Branwyn, 2630 Robert Walker Pl., Arlington, VA 22207): A tape edition of the art/information/noise magazine, loosely structured around a couple of drug stories and some psychoactive music from Trust Obey, Peter Gullerud, Jim Steele, and others. The Tape-Beatles and Geof Huth play with language, God drops in as a Scotsman, and a poor patron of Cafe Gaga finds her food a bit hard to deal with. Very strange, a bit uneven in quality, but definitely interesting. (T/MG)

**KYLE GRIFFITH**, "Earth Mysteries" (Spiritual Revolutionary, POB 60327, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0327): Griffith's main channaeled insight is that spirits renew their powers by earthly incarnations—a few who don't get their vitamins by leechihg off other souls. These parasitic ghosts are responsible for wars, most of religion and sundry other evils. Fortunately the good self-recycling souls are winning the "war in heaven", and soon everyone will be as spiritually advanced as white American agnostic consumers. From this perspective Griffith evaluates Christianity (fit for slaves), Judaism (a legalistic entrapment), and Islam (warrior madness)—Jesus the man and "Eastern Religion" he likes. Withal his evaluations of the religions of the book are cliches of ignorance that'd be insulting were they not so silly. His syntax likewise wants some work—almost as bad as Bush's. Perhaps he should try and channel some educational programs. (T/JR)

**JANOR HYPERCLEATS**, "The Janor Device Part II: I'm Too Busy Hating" ($7.50 from 422 1/2 S. Martin, Little Rock, AR 72205): For anyone at all into SubGenius, this will be a fun and funny experience. Janor is one of the champion ranters, and some of his best material is on this tape. The top is a recording of his comedy show made in '86, with arguments with his agent and hairdresser thrown in. "I'm Too Busy Hating" is a fine sermon from the Boston Bobalon. In-jokish at times, crude at others, but enjoyable. (T/MG) [MA#1098]

**ANDREW SAVAGE**, "SUPER TROUPER 7" (from 81 Castlerigg Dr., Burnley, Lanes, UK): Zine and tape reviews: one gets the feeling that Savage didn't look the stuff over before the taping—he's not very informative. The music spoke for itself, of course, but hadn't much to say. (T/JR)

**SEX FLUIDS** The New Flesh Palladium ($8 from North, 33 Transit Street, Providence, RI 02903): Pretty genuinely spooky Voodoo poetry. North has a resonant stately actor's voice, pure of diction and projective. The background music is spare synthesizer sinister tribal muzak from the world of the dead. As to the text, it's not your hokey Metal-Satanic bad-scanning verse but actually effective and plausible ritual magick utterance. I don't know that it'll sour milk or make your crops fail, but it'll sure annoy a lot of people. Anyone into Crowley and Spare will get major kicks out of this material. In particular the 11 min. 40 sec. "Sex Mutation" is the kind of thing that gets Radio Stations closed. I thought it was neat, but definitely Magic Theater—not for everybody. (T/JR)

**Various Artists**, "Anomaly 2" ($4 from Jake Berry, Experimental Audio Directions, PO Box 3112, Florence, AL 35630) Streams of sound and words alone and in combination define this compilation, whose participants include many from the excellent "Lost & Found Times" tapes. The 21 works presented are highlited by the mysterious Floating Concrete Octopus' early Gong like musings; John Bennett's absurdist constructive poetry; Mike Miskowski's mutated MacIntosh manipulations; Willie Smith's linked ideas and bile; Jake Berry's sing song strained voice connecting conciousness over stretched sounds; and the monumental "Fifty" by Jack and Adelle Foley, examining a relationship in retrospect with suprising and pertinent digressions. Only the overlong "City of Renoun" distracts from the active experiments of this excellent collection. (T/PMZ)

**Various Artists**, "The War On War" (SASE & a blank 90-minute tape from Vital Information, PO Box 791377, New Orleans, LA 70179-1377): A collection of collaged material which went out over the airwaves on Tim Maddog's radio shows. There's selections from **1984**, punk pro-freedom rants, Martin Luther King, the draft, the war in Iraq, and more. It's all spliced together with bits of punk music and other audio mayhem. (T/MG)

**VITAL INFORMATION** "NOT 4 $ale, Freedom of Speech" (Trade of blank cassette and postage from Tim Maddog, PO Box 791377, N.O.,LA 70179-1377) Excerpts from his radio show's music covering the concept that music conveys information and it's too bad that the certain US government officials feel it is necessary to censor. Songs featuring samplings of voice-overs concerning religious and political issues, etc. Good stuff and thought provoking. (T/RS)

**VOX #1** ($12/yr; $10/lifetime for blind or partially sighted individuals, from 540-C NE Northgate Way #439, Seattle, WA 98125): "Recordings on Radio Monitoring", this one is intended to spread news from the shortwave listening radio hobby to those who can't read the magazines in the field. It's all excerpts from various magazines, on topics from sorting out the alphabet soup of the field to which frequencies to monitor for the news from the Persian Gulf. Quality is a bit spotty, with street noises very apparent, but everything is still audible. (T/MG)

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★★★★★

**1991 WRITER'S MARKET** ($34.95 & $3 postage from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207): If you're an established writer, you probably already know about this thick annual volume of potential markets. If you're not even dreaming of writing, you can go on to the next review. That leaves you budding writers who, if you're not already familiar with this book, should be. Basically, this is *the* place to look for places to send your manuscripts—4000 of them, including book and magazine publishers, greeting card companies, play producers, and more. There are sections for syndicates, agents, and contests too. In addition, the front of the book has concise instructions on manuscript practices, and helpful features like the discussion of all the different rights you can sell. But the heart of the book is the market listing, where the wants, rates, and practices of those 4000 markets are laid out with loving care. Although many of the biggest name magazines are absent (because they don't want to deal with the flood of manuscripts that would result), there are still plenty of opportunities for you to join in the writing fraternity. (1008 pp. hc/MG)

★★★★★

David Alexander, **COLTRAY #2: PAY THE DEVIL** (Leisure Books, 276 5th Ave, New York, NY 10001; write for free catalog): Stosh Coltray, the mercenary with a conscience, is back—this time fighting the sinister forces of the Priory of Satan, led by the mysterious "Lavender". The PoS is a group which lives up to all the worst smear stories directed at Satanists, shipping "breeders" around the country, drugging young girls, all that good stuff. Coltray goes after them with plenty of hot lead (lovingly described, of course), commando friends, and a passion for justice. As usual in Alexander's books, blood flies in new and surprising metaphors, plenty of hardware gets used, and the tension is kept high. A fine addition to the leisure violence reading world. (174 pp. pb/MG)

★★★★★

J.G. Ballard, **THE ATROCITY EXHIBITION** ($16 from Re/Search, 20 Romolo #B, San Francisco, CA 94133): First published in 1970 (and with most of that original edition shredded when the publishers realized what they had printed), this remains one of the most disturbing studies of the modern condition. Ballard blends surgery, neurosis, assassinations, sex and automobile accidents into one insane dreamy narrative, all the more frightening for its straightforward ambiguity. Among other things, he seems to be pointing at a progressive dehumanization of experience, in which only the industrial—and not the human—is real. Re/Search have done their usual good job of packaging: lavish medical illustrations, introduction by Burroughs, publication of five new chapters and extensive annotations by the author make this the definitive edition. (128 pp tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Charles Balun, **THE GORE SCORE: ULTRAVIOLENT HORRO IN THE *)'s** ($6.95 from Fantaco, 21 Central Ave., Albany, NY 12210): Smart-assed capsule reviews of nearly every gore and near-gore feature release of the past decade, major and minor. Mr. Balun in sixty words or less trips his way alphabetically through "buckets of brains" to find the true, leaving those in the know without a whole lot they didn't know before: *Re-Animator* was great, *The Hills Have Eyes Two* reeked. We know this already, Pretty simple stuff, but, of course, not without redeeming qualities. He doesn't pull punches on the dogs, gets some licks in with an incisive introduction, and manages to avoid cliche analyses of the position of the gore flick in relation to more palatable pop culture forms. For the aficionado this'll be largely dispensable, other than as a curiosity of genre criticism. For the uninitiated... it may keep you from renting a piece of shit, which is surely worth something. (64 pp. tpb/reviewed by Tad Kepley)

★★★★★

Richard Behrens, **WHEN WISE MEN CRAWL** ($3.45 from Liz Camps, Freelance Press, PO Box 8551, FDR Sta., New York, NY 10022-9998): This slim novel was issued in 1984 and is now being remarketed by Freelance. It's a strange hallucinatory story which works on a variety of levels, starting with a man proceeding difficultly through a post-apocalypse world. He meets someone else and hears part of that person's life story, which includes recollections from the life of yet another (this last a freak, Johnny the half-man). All this level-switching makes the book difficult to keep track of, and it's hard to tell at times where one is in the labyrinth. Overall it leaves many plot threads dangling and a taste of lives gone bad in a world gone worse. (64 pp tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Rick Belden, **IRON MAN FAMILY OUTING** ($11.50 from Plain View Press, PO Box 33311, Austin, TX 78764): This was based on the rather effective conceit of using the Marvel Comics contribution to pop mythology to represent psychological armor, though the tragic aspect, its insulation from life, is described to the exclusion of its heroic qualities. The book was written, the author tells us in his preface, out of "a need to share all my feelings in order to change, heal old wounds, and grow into a complete person." Wherein does this sharing consist? In the unforgiving enumeration of psychic damages inflicted upon him by his father: "my chin remembers/ falling out of bed into a/ *daddy's mad again* hot sunday night/...my neck remembers/ father's hands closing tight around my throat/ my ears remember/ mother screaming *stop it dick stop it.*" (This constitutes the peak of the grievance list: the father in question doesn't seem to have been guilty of much more than overwork and irritability. Selective memory is what makes this mundane papa into "Daddy Dearest.") The author employs in his litany of wrongs received a certain amount of medical-sounding terminology, as if to set the seal of science on the denunciations: "a dysfunctional or nonexistent relationship with this father," "unable to express anger appropriately,"—this Twelve-stepping tone, clues us in on the source of his crude psychology of catharsis, generously denominated "sharing one's feelings." Another determinant of the content is the inappropriate application of a simplistic version of Feminism to male psychology, mandating the suppression of even healthy sexual or energetic impulses.. The sexual repression, here as always, always produces: sentimentality, the thrilling, sensual tsk tsk that pounds discreetly through the veins at some affecting spectacle, say, a leprous beggar expertly displaying his sores. In fact wounds and sores are Belden's stock in trade: his view of a romantic relationship finds this unhappy expression: "together we almost made a whole person for a while/ fused at the wound." This is Sentimentality at its purest, the appeal to Pity pre-empting any appeal to reason. To further substantiate that this wound-o-rama is also fueled by pseudo-Feminist repression, consider the prostitute epiphany in "safe sex confession": "she sits down beside me/ she tells me/ *I'm nasty can you handle it*/ she slides out of her leather skirt/ she pins me into a chair in the corner/ she looks me right in the eyes/ she rubs her body all over mine/ she says/ *you like head don't you*/ she touches my hardness through my pants + says/ *impressive*/ she

Freelance Press
P.O. Box 8551
FDR Station
N.Y., NY 10022

Check out our reviews in *Factsheet Five #39*

*Chakra #4*; Liz Camps, Editor
See Zine Reviews column

*When Wise Men Crawl*
A Novel by Richard Behrens
See Book Reviews section

*Brother and Sister* - Pamphlet
by R. Behrens & R. Podolefsky
See One-Shot Reviews column

tells me about her dreams/ she wears a black push-up bra/ she asks me/ *do you like to tit-fuck*" Clearly this kind of porny hoopla is what he loves, ( and he has every right to!), what makes him live, as he himself concludes: "she leaves me/ hot hard swollen animal-buzzing/ electrified + alive at last." But all such diversions are undercut by assertions like: "this time I can't do it/ I can't watch this or bring it into my home/ without violating the little boy inside me...I'm drawn like a moth to a headlight/ like a cat into a warm engine spinning radiator fan/ on a cold winter morning.// this stuff appeals to everything that's/ wounded + disfunctional in me" Methinks the robot doth protest too much. If I'm right about his repression of healthy male energy as "violent" I'll find an extravaganza of it somewhere—though the cat in the fan above is gross enough to rest a case on. And just as the bitch Sensuality whines in the porn poems, the dogs of Rage, locked up in the basement of his soul, can be heard howling in "x-ray barbeque": "I rip my chest open I find/ a slaughterhouse a press a torture chamber/ winged demons on ice/ evil farm animals up to no good/ an earthworm spilling its guts on a hook" What we have here is not, as the author claims, a sensitive child trapped in the emotional armor of a false Manhood so much as a formerly healthy man compressed in the Iron Maiden of a Feminist-inspired ideology, tuning his screams to the dissonant twelve tones of the 12 Step Program. Our Tin Man went to the Feminism as interpreted by a part of the "Men's Movement" asking for a heart: instead they filled his chest with humorless unforgiving politics and psychology. Now he's wept himself to rust—and creaks out these poems. Mary, get her an oilcan. (PB-106t/JR)

★★★★★

Francine Boucher & Robert Pauze, **CONTROL YOUR WEIGHT: A GUIDE TO SELF-MANAGING YOUR EATING BEHAVIOR** (Editions de Mortagne, 250, Industrial Blvd., Boucherville, QUE, J4B 2X4, CANADA): This is an attempt, put together by the Psychological Guidance and Counseling Service of the University of Montreal, to help people reach their ideal weight without crash diets and other short-term solutions. They go for a slow but steady program of behavior modification, starting with becoming aware of what you eat and then working on developing better eating habits. Each week presents step-by-step instructions, with worksheets for keeping track of everything. About the only thing I find to complain about here is the insistence of their guidelines that animal products are necessary for a healthy diet; but one could use their program without holding to that particular piece of outmoded dogma. (104 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

L. Brent Bozell III & Brent H. Baker (eds.), **AND THAT'S THE WAY IT ISN'T: A REFERENCE GUIDE TO MEDIA BIAS** ($14.95 from Media Research Center, 111 S. Columbus St., Alexandria, VA 22314): This book explores the major media seeking to document a liberal bias among reporters and editors which deprives the American people of their right to objective news. As is usually the case in sociological studies of complex institutions, they find what they look for. But the book is not simply anecdotes and worries. most of it is a summary of a couple of dozen distinct studies, looking at everything from the political views of a sample of reporters to the number of times the word "Reagonomics" was used on the news (there is a lovely graph correlating this latter statistic with the unemployment rate).

This book, written by embattled-feeling conservatives, tends to focus on things they don't like, and of course one can pick nits with their analyses. For example: is Ted Kennedy precisely as far to the left as Jesse Helms is to the right? Have Republicans gotten a bad shake lately because bad news is news while good news is not, and the Republicans happen to be in power? Were all those who evaluated Reagan's performance as "below average" biased liberals, or were some of them distressed conservatives?

Sadly, this sort of reflexive introspection is absent here. I would like to see books like this lay out their own biases a bit more clearly, and discuss studies which seem to disprove their points as well as those which seem to prove them. Better yet would be a joint book between the Media Resource Center and Fairness and Accuracy In Reporting (publishers of EXTRA!, which documents a conservative bias in the media). But that's not likely to happen, and meanwhile, this is still worth reading, if only to provide food for thought. (340 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

**BREAKING FREE** ($5.50 from A Distribution, 339 Lafayette St. #202, New York, NY 10012): This is A Distribution's best-selling title, and it's easy to see why, for it's a beautiful work of anarchist inspirational literature. It's the latest cartoon novel of Tintin, the tufty-haired and somewhat short-fused anarchist youth who represents the spirit of the British resistance. This book goes from the particular struggle—a strike against a single building site—to the ultimate of the general strike and revolution. Artist J. Daniels and the rest of the ATTACK crew skillfully blend in a number of other struggles, including women's and gay liberation, with this main plot thread, showing that all is not rosy within the working class either. While I suspect the class analysis and "us vs. them" atittude of Tintin and his pals will still not appeal to those in countries without a strong tradition of class solidarity, this is as painless a way as I know to be introduced to the idea of the general strike. And besides that, it's a darned exciting and fun comic. But...what happened to Tintin's dog? (176 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Blaise Cendrars, **MORAVAGINE** ($9.95 from Blast Books, PO Box 51, Cooper Sta., New York, NY 10276): An exceedingly odd book, first published in French in 1926, and introduced by Henry Miller, who was apparently greatly influenced by it. It's the story of Moravagine, an idiot who is heir to the ruling family of a now-defunct eastern European country, and the doctor who aids his escape from the asylum. What follows is a swooping descent into depravity, starting with the murder of young women, proceeding through a key role in the unsuccessful revolutions in Russia in the first decade of the century, and ending in World War I. The writing is lush and disturbing, moving from careful description of Amazonian Indians to fevered nights of revolutionary plotting to almost science fictional scenes at the end, extracted from Moravagine's own manuscripts. A deeply moving book, although certainly not cast in any of the usual molds. (266 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Swami Chetanananda, **RAMAKRISHNA AS WE SAW HIM** ($12.95 from Vedanta Society of St. Louis, 205 South Skinker Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63105):Utterly fascinating firsthand accounts of the 19th century Yogi famous for his teaching that *all* religions are paths to God-consciousness, and founder of the Ramakrishna Mission or Vedanta Society. Compiled from the reminiscences of 40 disciples, friends and relatives. One need not be interested in Hinduism, or even in religion, to find the revelations (I use the term advisedly) of R.'s personality entrancing. The memoirs show the standard features of hagiography. First incredulous meeting with the saint, sudden and often psychedelic alteration in consciousness at a word or a touch from him, accounts of how he dealt with sickness, a difficult visitor, a troubled disciple, &c. What's thrilling here is the man himself, who charges around, plunging into ecstatic states, preaching 20 hours at a stretch, gobbling sweetmeats, and divining stranger's spiritual states by the shape of their eyes or the set of their limbs. With all this, he evinces droll common sense. An unemployed youth wants to learn God-consciousness: "First try and find work. Then we'll talk God." A pacifist won't so much as hinder a cat from eating off his plate: "Push the cat away! She won't die." A man whose head was in the heavens and whose feet were intelligently on the ground. (495 pp. tpb/JR)

★★★★★

Aleister Crowley, **THE STRATEGEM AND OTHER STORIES** (Temple Press Limited, PO Box 227, Brighton, Sussex BN2 3GL, ENGLAND): Yes, that's the one and only Aleister Crowley, the Great Beast himself. I suppose I had always known in an offhand sort of way that he wrote other things besides texts on magick, and I'd even seen some of his poetry. But this was the first I'd really known that he wrote short stories. Though they seem to have obvious didactic intent, at least the title story can be enjoyed just as a good read; it reminds me a bit of Frank Stockton's "The Lady or the Tiger" in it's tone and construction. Also included here are "The Testament of Magdalen Blair", a sort of horror story reminiscent of Poe; "His Secret Sin", a wonderful sendup of nineteenth-century British morality; and "Which Things Are An Allegory", a minor piece apparently included just so they could have some previously-unpublished text in this edition. Temple Press, incidentally, is the publishing arm of the Temple Ov Psychick Youth, and the few books of theirs I've seen are quite attractive fine editions. (108 pp. hc/MG)

★★★★★

T.W. Doane, **BIBLE MYTHS** ($37.50 from De Young Press, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252): Subtitled "and their parallels in other religions, being a comparison of the Old and New Testament myths and miracles with those of heathen nations of antiquity considering their origin and meaning," this late 19th century tome systematically debunks the Bible by showing it's just a bunch of legends, of a kind you could get elsewhere just as good. This is done in the age of Max Muller, so we're drawing on Wilkes' "Bhagavat-Geeta", Blavatsky and Champollion—but mostly the western classics, in english translation, provide referents. The goal of this undertaking is to sound the deathknell of Christianity, and sweep away the last debris to "prepare the gound upon which there shall be the gorgeous temple of humanity, one universal republic, one universal religion of intelligence...the new gospel of humanity and reason." So we're talking obsolete scholarship in the service of an outworn ideology. Not only is it dated for the age of Eliade and Hodgson, it wasn't so hot in 1882 either—the kind of scholarship and skepticism we find in the far preceeding Burton footnotes to the Arabian nights would blow this opus out of the water. This is at best a curiousity. (TPB-2vols./JR)

★★★★★

Sam Dolgoff, **FRAGMENTS: A MEMOIR** ($15.50 from A Distribution, 339 Lafayette St. #202, New York, NY 10012): The subtitle is apt, as is the additional copy on the cover: "Personal recollections from a lifetime of struggle in the cause of anarchism". Sam Dolgoff wanders through his memories of roughly half a century (1930s through 1980s), commenting on the people he remembers from the anarchist movement. Dolgoff is a hardcore anarcho-syndicalist, withering in his condemnation of the "new left groupsicles", and scornful of anyone without use for the labor movement—indeed, the IWW is the organization which gets the most pages here. And many of his remarks about fellow anarchists can only be characterized as catty, particularly when he "refutes" the stands of others now long-dead and no longer able to participate in the debate. Despite these failings, this is a valuable work, for the simple reason that there are no other portraits of the players involved. Dolgoff's recollections, one-sided and occasionally self-serving as they are, are one of the few links modern American anarchists have to their past, and thus worth reading and pondering. (200 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

**THE DROOD REVIEW'S 1990 MYSTERY YEARBOOK** ($14 from PO Box 8872, Boston, MA 02114): The quickest and best reference I know of for a single field of publishing. **DROOD REVIEW** is a zine devoted to mystery books, and this is their compendium of the titles published in 1990, almost 1600 of them. Besides giving full publishing data, they provide brief reviews (with pointers to longer ones) for over 500 of these books, previously discussed in DROODs pages. There's also stores to shop at, recommended books, awards for the years, and information on the zines of the mystery world. Should be in any library that seriously wants to serve its readers. (144 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Marc Dubin, TREKKING IN SPAIN ($11.95 from Lonely Planet Publications, PO Box 2001A, Berkeley, CA 94702): A clearly written guide aimed at those who enjoy getting away into wilderness or at least less industrialized, touristy regions of foreign countries, where they may have the pleasure of participating in other cultures and observing other flora and fauna, while simultaneously enjoying a not too strenuous stretch of camping. While, as you might expect, the first quarter of the book gives considerable information of importance to any one visiting Spain for the first time, its main focus concerns the backpacker who has never before hiked in that country. Thus one finds, in addition to a short but well-selected list of words and phrases especially pertinent to trekkers, a roster of Spanish organizations concerned with hiking and another of map sources. These groups and maps are all critically described, a procedure which Dubin follows throughout the guide, whether referring to *refugios* or inns or general stores or any other facilities where quality and value-for-money-received is of importance. The chosen trails are located in 4 well-separated regions of Spain,—Andalucia, Castille, the Spanish Pyrenees with northern Spain and the island of Mallorca; thus one can find considerable natural variety as as cultural. Each described hike is broken into day-length segments and accompanied by a map which makes it quite easy to follow the step-by-step directions by which one is led across the countryside. Still, Dubin does not expect the maps in his guide to be more than a supplement to certain more detailed maps that he recommends purchasing. The reason for the two is that while such maps as those put out by Editorial Alpina or by the Spanish government do a splendid thorough job with regard to natural and man-made features, all too often there are mistakes in locating the exact positions of paths; this problem is however easily solved by following the directions given in Dubin's guide. The information seems to have been mostly obtained first-hand sometime in 1988. Based upon the accuracy of his description of Mallorca, where the reviewer spend some weeks this year, one can feel quite confident that all of the hikes are equally well pictured. The writing is everywhere very clear, almost conversational, and the amount of applicable detail is amazing; these include such things as pertinent phone numbers,the names of people managing various *refugios*, inns and stores, useful bus and train schedules, snippets of local folklore and history as well as where to find water. This last point I found quite startling for in the United States I tend to be very cautious about drinking from natural sources but Dubin indicates numerous springs and streams where one may find potable water. In all, TREKKING IN SPAIN should make a most welcome and valuable addition to the portable library of any serious backpacker who is willing to accept reasonable challenges in order to escape the usual tourist centers so as to enjoy scenery, observe and identify a variety of life-forms, and meet people who follow ways of life that are new to the Trekker. (196 pp. tpb/reviewed by Dick Mason)

★★★★★

Scott Edelman, THE GIFT ($7.95 & $1.25 shipping from Space and Time, 138 W. 70th St. #4-B, New York, NY 10023): Does the world really need another vampire novel? Perhaps not, but fortunately this is not a vampire novel, even though a lot of vampires stalk its pages. Instead it is a novel of love, love between novelist Joey Amatio and painter Peter Grandin. I wouldn't precisely call this love healthy, but it has the epic quality which infuses good tragedy.

And this is certainly a tragedy. Amatio and Grandin move to the small town of Allansville to get away from the press of the city, only to find different pressures—most notably the backwood intolerance for homosexuality.

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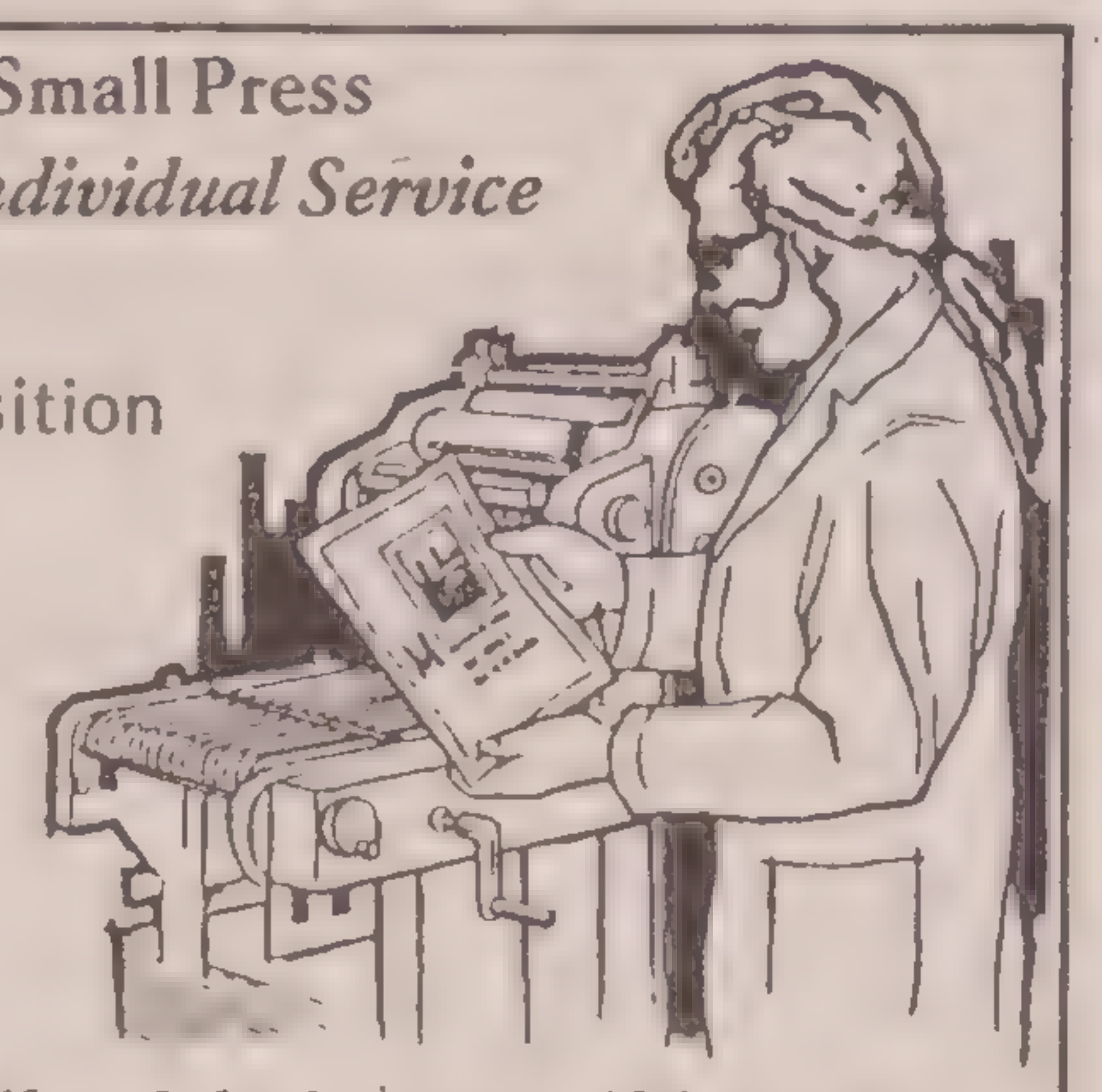

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NO! I DON'T KNOW! PLEASE STOP!
NO! NO!

• • •

☐ *The Lizard King*, poems by Judith Shannon Paine (former editor, *The Village Idiot*). $1 ppd.

• • •

☐ *Rural News*, poems by David Coy. Due out January 91. Advance orders, $2.50 ppd.

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(Edelman handles the relationship between his main characters very well, not sniggering but treating it as perfectly natural.) Things go from dangerous to unhealthy as the sensitive Grandin begins delving into the history of the big old house on the hill that they live in, ultimately uncoverinxg (literally as well as figuratively) vampire Jeremy Thorpe.

From there it is gripping, suspenseful reading as Thorpe and Amatio fight over Grandin's fate. The end is a bit surprising, though not without precedent—I was reminded of Richard Matheson's classic **I AM LEGEND**. But Edelman has added new twists and treate dthis very much as a story of people, and as such it works memorably. (192 pp. tpb/MG)

* * * * *

Cary Fagan, **CITY HALL AND MRS. GOD: A PASSIONATE JOURNEY THROUGH A CHANGING TORONTO** ($12.95 from The Mercury Press, PO Box 446, Stratford, ONT, N5A 6T3, CANADA): An examination of the current face of Toronto, from a city native who seems to have taken writing this book as an occasion for reappraisal. The central theme, the polarizing one, is that of housing, affordable and otherwise. Fagan jumps back and forth from fragile activist coalitions such as Bread Not Circuses to the offices of well-connected development lawyers and patrons of the arts. The end result is a picture of a polarized city, with those on one side trying deliberately to make things "world-class", while those on the other are interested mainly in survival and a few amenities, like a roof to sleep under. (I wonder whether the middle is as absent as this book makes it seem?). Throughout, the account is largely sympathetic, with Fagan calling shots as he sees them. A cold Jaguar dealer and the hot-headed anarhist rioters of 1988 are both dismissed, while other from their respective communities are treatedwith warmth and respect. In the end, Fagan comes in on the side othe oppressed, but without writing off the possibility of a true consensus to rebuild the city in a humane fashion. A fascinating study told, as are most good pieces of history or sociology, with snippets from individual lives and actual events rather than dry figures. (152 pp tpb/MG)

* * * * *

Elane Feldman, **THE WRITER'S GUIDE TO SELF-PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY** ($16.95 plus $3 s&h from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207): Like it or not, writing doesn't stop when your book goes off to the publisher. Or rather, it *can* stop, but then so will sales of your book. The author, a professional at book publicity, goes into great detail here as to whet you can do to keep your name and your book in the public eye. Some of it seems obvious, like the injunction to make eye contact and shake hands whenever you're around potential buyers. Other bits, like advice to have your teeth cleaned before a TV publicity tour, were news to me. Along the way, she discusses such things as developing a syndicated column or a personal newsletter, understanding the PR circuit, sending out letters to press people, and much more. Includes an extensive index of important contacts. (210pp. hc/MG)

* * * * *

Jerome Gold, **THE INQUISITOR** ($9.95 from Black Heron Press, PO Box 95676, Seattle, WA 98145): This is the story of Bill Brave, a Native American working (as the book opens) for an unidentified Ministry in a future America which is having serious problems, torn by domestic strife and bureaucratic infighting as well as a series of foreign wars. In three sections, it chronicles the downfall of Brave's life, from government agent to rent-a-cop to hopeless drifter, as the society around him likewise collapses. Shadowy people do shadowy things, pointless because the action and antecedents are offstage. Brave's relationships mutate and dissolve. In general, the whole country (and probably the world) go to pot. This is a supremely depressing novel, which makes its craftsmanship almost annoying. Gold is a good enough writer to compel finishing the story, and good enough at twisting the knife that it's not a pleasant experience. But then, dystopias rarely are, especially ones where the individual seems to have no chance against an impersonal system. (290 pp. tpb/MG)

* * * * *

Roxy Gordon, **BREEDS** ($4? from 5746 Oram, Dallas, TX 75206): A mixture of history, prose-poetry, and (I think) autobiography, all focussing on the dismal history of the Native American, present distress, past indignities, and (Gordon prophecies) future restored greatness. I found the writing almost sullen in its slowness: historical persons interact in slow Godotlike scenes whose meaning I cannot access. It's more representative scenes of white/Native interaction than story, which may account for my non engagement. What I did find striking were the posterlike text-and-drawing pages, done in strong outline and make a determined impression. My favorite was the one that reads: "So great has been the white man's defeat in 500 years of Indian wars, that now defection to the winning side offers his single hope of survival," this illustrated by a crouching shaman. (66 pp. tpb/JR)

* * * * *

Thomas H. Greco, Jr., **MONEY AND DEBT: A SOLUTION TO THE GLOBAL CRISIS** ($6.50 plus $1.50 p&h from PO Box 42663, Tucson, AZ 85733): Greco has gotten interested in the monetary system—and, like others before him, has come to two conclusions. First, interest on loans needs to be abolished to slow down on inflation and deflation. Second, currencies need to be backed by something concrete—and Greco pushes for a "market basket" approach, pegging the unit of value to the value of specified amounts of specified goods. Where he differs from previous writers I've read on the subject is primarily in ease of exposition and realism. He manages to make his ideas clear, and cite sources that might help make them clear. He also recognizes that those in power will not just roll over and let fiat money be replaced. But he proposes a sort of quiet revolution, of businesses keeping accounts in alternate currency as well as the official ones, until the market drives the official ones out of use. Well, it could happen; and if it does, some of the social and environmental benefits cited here may well come about. (76 pp. tpb/MG)

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•Jack Kerouac, **SAFE IN HEAVEN DEAD** (Hanuman #42): This is a fragment of a much longer work compiled by Michael White, who set out to collect Kerouac ephemera. He got hundreds of pages, but then couldn't get permission from the Kerouac estate to use it. However, interview copyright is owned by the interviewer, not the interviewee; hence, this collection is of responses by Jack to questions asked by other people. Some of it is absolutely delightful, in particular his thoughts on Buddhism and Catholicism, and his words on the "beat movement": "I wasn't trying to create any kind of new consciousness or anything like that. We didn't have a whole lot of heavy abstract thoughts. We were just a bunch of guys who were out trying to get laid." (124 pp. pb/MG)

* * * * *

Kenneth J. Harvey, **DIRECTIONS FOR AN OPENED BODY** ($11.95 from The Mercury Press, Box 446, Stratford, ONT, N5A 6T3, CANADA): Harvey's great talent lies in stripping away the veneer of civilization to show us the raw, chafed skin beneath—and to do it in enough different ways that his stories do not lose their freshness in a collection. The opening tale here, "Open House", is a fitting introduction, in which a man breaks up his marriage, quite literally, while showing the house he's trying to sell. Later, another man discovers, suddenly, childlike, the oppressive weight of clothing; in another story, a young woman desperately degraded returns to a brother for solace. There are tender moments here as well, but Harvey is a hard writer to trust; some of the tenderest starts turn into the most surprising endings., Compelling craftsmanship at work. (128 pp. tpb)

* * * * *

Jack Herer, **THE EMPEROR WEARS NO CLOTHES** ($12.95 from HEMP Publishing, 5632 Van Nuys Blvd, Van Nuys, CA 91401): The subtitle pretty much says it all: "The Authoritative Historical Record of the Cannabis Plant, Hemp Prohibition, and How Marijuana Can Still Save the World." Their basic argument is that marijuana prohibition was engineered by powerful industrial interests who wanted to prevent its use in papermaking and biomass fuel, and that the plant is a great food and medicinal crop to boot. The book lists the many uses of hemp over the years (though I didn't notice any mention of one such: the traditional hangman's noose was always of hemp rope), and talks about its possible role today.

It's an interesting historical record, and I think the arguments against prohibition (in general) are quite good. The author is a bit disingenuous, though, in putting forth all these industrial uses; I would wager the majority of rabid hemp-supporters out there want to get high, and don't give a damn what the string that ties their packages is made from. And I remain cynical about conspiracy theories; I doubt that history is as simple as Herer and company would have us believe. In broad outline, though, the book makes a good case, and with almost 50% of it being reprints of source documents, they've certainly done their homework—which is not necessarily the same as having done balanced research. (182 pp tpb/MG)

* * * * *

Barbara Holland, **RUNNING BACKWARDS** ($8 from Warthog Press, 29 South Valley Road, West Orange, NJ 07052): Barbara Holland, until her recent death (see under Home Planet News in the zine section), was an astonishing feature of the NYC open reading landscape. You'd see her, a tall gaunt old woman in black, with her eyes closed, arms extended and fingers fanned, uttering all this Sibyllic stuff. Her essays at high art are her mythological poems, on the Argo, Eurydice, Medusa: "Spray. Thick and heavy dawn. A day/ clouded, soaked, sunken, swirled./ Exploded. Pouring back into the sea. The hiss of serpents rising from my head/ as mist in streamers wriggling/ across this rock. The night/ with horrors riding on the wind,/ flung by the breakers at my feet,/ their jaws gnashing; tentacles/ half-hidden in the beards of weed,/ hanging above the down-pulled anger, the recoil and massing force." Imagine the woman speaking this out—she always read from memory, and seemed to be drawing these images out of the air. Uninfluenced by her delivery, I have to admit that she gets so wrapped up in the thrilling texture of words that some lines are produced which don't mean a lot, of which the above is a good enough example. Sadly, this fault runs through the whole book, there's scarce a poem that doesn't get murky. The best material is her humorous supernatural poetry: she writes of holding a waterbaby:"An arm leaks stealthily/ down through my fingers..." or of a cousin who went into orbit: "She was so neat about it./ She slid head downward into the chimney/ and skimmed the floor from the fireplace/ to the window. Non-stop and out.// Then up over eaves/ and back down/ in a swan dive through the parlor.// The last time the rug went with her." Well, it's not great poetry. She hadn't the clarity to turn her rich mood-making and eerie style into coherent and compelling song—she lacked the centering vision. With it, her verbal talents would have won her a better epitaph than this. She was my friend, and though I can't for that make her poetry out to be better than it was, I owe and ought to assure you she was a great performer. *Atque in pertetuum soror, ave atque vale.* (251pp. tpb/JR) ®STARS = $$$$$

Andrew John, **A FEAST OF BEGGARS** ($9.50 from Dunscaith Publishing, 28 West Lodge Ave., London W3 9SF, UK): Pouty bourgeois kid trots off to find himself...in Paris no less. Knowing of course that these European types like to treat suffering as romantic doesn't sweeten the pill of this turgid little novel, which ends up going down as one more hack rework of **DOWN AND OUT IN PARIS AND LONDON**. Autobiographical in nature as near as I can tell, this sad little tale relates the harrowing adventures of yet another alienated youth diddling twenty-franc hookers and swilling cheap wine whilst broke amongst the dregs of Frog culture. I'm sure the suffering was real (it has to be to reach Nirvana) but I'm also pretty sure it was mostly self-inflicted. For the plague-like swarms of self-congratulatory lumpen-intellectual ascetics trudging the backstreets of Europe, suffering equals adventure. Pretty boring. Sure life is pain, sure lovers will jilt you and leave you contemplating the great truths of the universe in a pint of vodka. So what? Lighten up and enjoy yourselves. And don't expect anyone to take your whining seriously. (138 pp. tpb/reviewed by Tad Kepley)

★★★★★

P.D. Jordan, **COOPER STREET** ($3.75 plus postage from Haypenny Press, 211 New St., W. Paterson, NJ 07424): A young adult novel that lends itself to older, more mature genres as well. Set in an inner city, this is the story of adolescent Nicholas, whose straight and narrow values get challenged by his surroundings, situations, and peers. It brings back memories of S.E. Hinton's **THE OUTSIDERS**, et al. with its city-brothers-left-without-parents-and-making-it-honestly storyline. Nicholas does get challenged in many ways, though not all of them are usual: his morals, his loves, and his loyalty, plus the memories of the family he lost at an early age. Written in the first person, Nicholas as narrator give us a better clue as to the state of this kid's soul—therefore much more authentic than if an adult were retelling his story. (147 pp.tpb/CG)

★★★★★

Michael Larsen, **HOW TO WRITE A BOOK PROPOSAL** ($10.95 plus $3 s&h from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207): This book is precisely what the title promises: a guide to writing a proposal aimed at an editor or agent with the intent of selling your (nonfiction) book. Larsen is the cofounder of San Francisco's oldest literary agency and has helped sell hundreds of books. This volume contains his simple formula for a proposal designed to hook an editor's interest, and avoid giving her a reason to reject the proposal. It lays out all the necessary parts, gives samples of each (plus a complete sample proposal) and even suggests alternative vocabulary for parts that encourage repetition. A definitely useful book—I know this because it has already helped me revise one book proposal. (113 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Dr. Harold Litten, **SOLO SEX: ADVANCED TECHNIQUES** (Factor Press, 3932-C Airport Blvd., #123, Mobile, AL 36608): Imagine, for a moment, what the world's highways would sound like if "HONK IF YOU MASTURBATE" became a popular bumper sticker—and if drivers were honest. That cacophony is what prompted Litten to write this book (which, incidentally, is directed at a completely male audience; women will have to look elsewhere for self-love manuals). It's sort of a postgraduate course in masturbation, designed to take the average guy from the metaphorical hamburger to the more exalted realms of the metaphorical sirloin steak.

Don't look for a manual of obscure grips and milk bottles full of warm liver, though. (Admittedly, both of those appear, but in minor ways). Rather, the idea is to learn how to visualize orgasm until you're capable of a sort of solo tantric sex, multiple orgasm, and even orgasm without actually doing more than thinking about it. Litten says all these things are possible for men, and he has the testimonial letters as well as personal experience to back him up. With diligent practice and a moderately creative mind, you can do the same. (207 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Jack Luger, **CODE MAKING AND CODE BREAKING** ($10.95 & $3 s&h from Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): A rather good introduction to the subject of keeping what you write secret from others. Luger covers everything from simple substitution ciphers to elaborate Playfair and Enigma methods which should provide adequate security for almost any purpose which ought to be contemplated by the everyday reader. Technically it appears to be quite up to date; about the only thing the book misses is some current speculation that "unbreakable" ciphers based on one-time pads generated by random physical processes may in fact be vulnerable to an attack based on chaos theory. (Luger does, however, do a good job of explaining the difference between random and pseudo-random numbers). It is slightly odd that the DES standard and the role the NSA may have played in weakening this difficult to crack method are omitted, but this is probably because Luger concentrates on cheap methods, with only a few forays into what home computers can do for the cipher-maker. The book is a bit weaker on the codebreaking side, but all in all, a fine introduction. (121pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Jack Luger, **COUNTERFEIT I.D. MADE EASY** ($17.95 from Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): This is a quick overview of the possibilities for making false I.D.—as opposed to getting false I.D. genuinely issued by using "paper trip" methods. Luger examines types of identification in use and the safeguards they use to prevent alteration and forging, and suggests some ways to defeat them. Some of these are crude and seem unlikely to fool anyone with half a brain (which may still make them useful for purposes such as getting into over-21 bars). Others are fairly sophisticated, though he doesn't offer much for the person who wants a truly authentic-looking driver's license in most states. Still, I picked up a few new tricks and ideas here, and I probably already knew more than most people about the subject thanks to my acquaintance with printing and typesetting. (131 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Daniel P. Mannix, **FREAKS: WE WHO ARE NOT AS OTHERS** ($14.00 ppd from Re/Search Publications, 20 Romolo St. #B, San Francisco, CA 94133): As the author remarks, "If you regard yourself as a normal...person, almost certainly the very idea of a freak is repugnant to you." Who's normal? If you ever were at all interested in side show phenomena then you'll devour this book—but don't buy it for the pictures alone (some are truly spooky). Mannix, who spent some time working in side shows, writes this as a loving tribute to those "physically challenged" people who made their livings and their lives more worthwhile by displaying their deformities. Midgets, Siamese Twins, alligator-skinned peopled and self-induced freakdom are all covered, and many times the book reads like a fairy tale. Mannix has an amazing store of historical information—freaks from the biblical era on up—plus many personal anecdotes on many of the more famous freaks in history. The problem I have with this book is Mannix's unintentional racist and sexist outlook: "Negroes" are discussed delicately and with the aversion one would normally find in an account of the people he is so doggedly trying to upgrade in status. "Freaks are people too," he asserts, but what does that make black freaks? (120 pp. tpb/CG)

★★★★★

Robert Martin, **BRAIN DAMAGE** ($7 from Bob Martin, PO Box 1711, Hoboken, NJ 07030; or order with excerpts from his new **BLEEDING FROM THE HEAD** for only $8.50): The paperback is finally out of this novelization of Frank Henenlotter's film of the same name, including a few stills from the movie. This is the story of the Aylmer (later watered down to Elmer by ignorant youth), a sort of psychic parasite in the form of a grody eel that lives on brain tissue and secretes hallucinogens in return, and Brian, the young man who becomes its host and victim. As befits a film adaptation, this is told in cinematic style, jumping from scene to scene as fast as a camera cut. It's gory and fast-moving, and if martin gets perhaps a bit too arty in spots, that's to be expected in trying to bring special effects down to the printed page. But there's more to the book than just a splatter-fest. Martin manages to chronicle inner horrors and the disintegration of Brian's will in a sort of mental parallel to the physical nastiness one can see on the screen, and the book ends in a subtle scene (too subtle for this reviewer to catch, the first time around) of the ultimate introspection. A fast and furious

**Religion and Crime**

THE ANTI-SOCIAL RESULTS AND DEBILITANT INFLUENCE OF RELIGIOUS EMOTIONS AND CONCEPTS

By
FRANK SWANCARA, LL.B.

Author of "Obstruction of Justice by Religion" and contributor to legal and criminological publications

To
FRANK SWANCARA, Jr.
my son, whose interest is in railroads.

Foreword by Garry De Young

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reading addition to the library of any movie junkie, and not bad as straight written horror either. (104 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Steve Merritt, **LOCK DOWN** ($5 from Caffeine Machine Publications, PO Box 11462, Berkeley, CA 94701): Gritty city-based riffs of alienation and loneliness. Merritt spends a lot of this book dealing with a busted love affair, with turning twenty, with not having any hope. There's bad junk and hopeless hookers and angry poetry and the scars from suicide attempts, all put down on the page with a clinical eye. It doesn't seem like a very nice life, but it's a hell of a well-drawn one. Merritt has a way with words that can get inside of you, take hold, and twist, hard. (80 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Mack Nasty, **TAKE NO PRISONERS** ($13 from Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): Books on harassment and revenge have enjoyed an upswing in popularity in recent years. Most of them deal with such stunts as having pizza sent to your neighbor to annoy him or phoning your target at random hours to disturb sleep. This work, on the other hand, brings whole new meaning to the term "malicious mischief". Some of Nasty's schemes will get your target arrested and investigated. Others will cause financial damage sufficient to bankrupt most middle-class families. Still others will do a variety of bodily harm, with symptoms from itching to heavy bleeding.

This is not a book for nice guys. This is a book for people who sincerely want to hurt other people. And yes, it will help you to do that. One word of warning, though: Nasty is not all that sophisticated when it comes to remaining undetected. While he does give a list of advantages and disadvantages to each method, with attention to your risk of getting caught, the advice given on this facet tends to be a bit shallow. You'll want to browse through some criminological literature, or through a terrorist training manual like **WITHOUT A TRACE**, before trying some of these stunts. (118 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Burt Rapp, **S.W.A.T. TEAM OPERATIONS** ($19.95 from Loompanics, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): This is one of the better books that Loompanics has put out lately, written by a professional police writer who trained with SWAT folks to write this book. Rapp moves systematically through the tasks and tactics of the SWAT team, explaining what they're effective for and how they do their job. Explosive entry, sniping, high-risk arrests, chemical munitions, body armor and just about anything else you can think of are discussed, with further references for it all. Rapp has some nasty things to say about flashy stuff like face-down rappelling and flashlight shooting stances, concentrating instead on the basics of teamwork, preparation, and protection of civilians. Of course, the would-be terrorist might garner a few ideas here as well, from things like the chapter on booby-traps in crack houses, though that info is all available elsewhere. A solid reference work, written for the intelligent layman or the police officer just starting to investigate the subject. (151 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

F. Zarod Rominski, **SEVEN WINDOWS** ($7.95 from Crones' Own Press, 310 Driver St., Durham, NC 27703): These seven stories of women follow a pattern which magnifies them as a whole and gives them a realm which singly they are not yet ready to merit. The pattern is thus: beginning in what seems like a primitive era, the stories progress in time to a distant future. Each of them have female protagonists who must endure both the histories of their individual lives and of their gender, as well as the rituals of their eras. Ritual plays a big part in the stories, whether its potato farming, witch hunts, or the Catholic religion. I found some of the prose to be a bit too superlative and indulgent—repeated sentence fragments abound—and the main characters lacking in 3-dimensional personhood, but the story concepts themselves were diverse and unique. "Halloween Fire," the story of a woman in a distant past, was the most fulfilling, with the hero grappling with aloneness and self while mourning a dead husband. It's not clear whether Rominski intends for these seven women to be sympathetic—or perhaps to imply that it is the ritual that a woman must face in conjunction with the development of her self and is it because rituals are enforced by men that she must endure them? (151 pp. tpb/CG)

★★★★★

Ted Schwarz, **THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO WRITING BIOGRAPHIES** ($22.95 from Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207): This book is pretty straightforward, although the unsuspecting reader might be a bit amazed by the concentration here on ghostwriting and "as-told-to" biographies; often it seems that these subjects are not talked about in polite company. But Schwarz, who has sold about 60 books, doesn't have time for that sort of nonsense. The book covers everything from picking a subject to finding a publisher to researching and interviewing to understanding a contract. Along the way he coyly inserts bits of behind the scene gossip from biographies he has worked on, illustrating the dilemmas the biographer may be faced with. Among other highlights, this has the best discussion of libel law I have yet seen. (192 pp. hc)

★★★★★

Terence Sellers, **THE CORRECT SADIST** (£12.50 from Temple Press Limited, PO Box 227, Brighton, Sussex BN2 3GL, ENGLAND): A revolting little bon-bon, this. Very elegantly printed under the auspices of Thee Temple Ov Psychick Youth, it's a how-to for dominatrices, explaining point for point how to reduce your submissive into a jellyfish quivering in humiliated ecstacy. The mere mechanics are given in recipe-like detail, and there are even sample dialogues to model your abuse on. These are enriched by the context of psychologic observation which constitutes the book's principal interest. Though no over-all model of the psychic apparatus is presented, a fairly dismal and for these purposes condign one can be surmised from the discussion of the slave's ways, which are set forth with a clarity and authority bespeaking a wealth of first hand experience. There is little specualtion as to the larger meaning of sadomasochism, nothing like the theology of Crime and deification of Nature that lent resonance to de Sade's excesses. This is a practical tome, with no more—and no less—meaning than a whip or a dildo. The author preserves her distance and remains somewhat mysterious, though a brief autobiographic preface describes her childhood as a war between her aristocratic spirit and a lower middle class home. She hits upon Dominatrickery as a means of realising her cruel, haughty nature, and escaping tedious low-paying work. An epilogue shows her having lost touch with Sadism, and straying among her old acquaintances, hunting for clues as to who she is and what she means. It ends with a reverie-like wander through philosophic and poetic ambiguities. A strange, entrancing, disgusting and distressing book, this is a real fleur du Mal, which will delight the reader who enjoys high class versions of such things. Illustrated with collages by Genesis P-Orridge which are bondage scenes spliced into Dore's Dante. (167 pp. hc/JR)

★★★★★

Sheila Siegelman, **SUKEY'S SONGBOOK OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS** ($8 from Scheherazade Books, PO Box 7573, Berkeley, CA 94707): After reading this book, I now know two things I didn't before: I hope I never have cause to deal with MS myself, and if I do, I hope I can find people like Sukey to be around. The author is inclined to cut through all the BS, and wants to live without being either terminally depressed or a noble suffering fvictim. There's all manner of blunt talk here, about what doctors know (not a lot), what the MS Society is good for (not a lot) and what you can find out from others with the disease (quie a bit). One favorite quote: "Doctor doesn't want to say he absolutely doesn't have a clue what's going to happen to you. Some people with MS are O.K.—for years, some stay the same, some get worse. Since the doctor doesn't know, I've seen many with MS who decide for themselves what will happen." A recommended resource for anyone trying to cope with MS. (111 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Willie Smith, **OEDIPUS CADET** ($8.95 plus $1.50 s &h from Black Heron Press, PO Box 95676, Seattle, WA 98145): This is a very strange book, which seems only fitting because (at least so far as I can tell from his writing) Smith is a very strange guy. It's the story of Randy Cruikshank, growing up in Virginia in the post-Korean war era, with a father who is a Pentagon worker and a lush and a head full of adolescent fantasies. These fantasies, mixing jet warfare and the glory of military missions with dimly-sensed knowledge of sinful pleasure sand images of an older female cousin juxtaposed with nazi memorabilia, twine in and out of the book's plot, dream become reality. While his home life goes to pot and his school day are spent in alienation from his peers, Randy retreats, hating his father, dreaming about his mother and his cousin Maureen, and barely keeping out of the loony bin.

Smith pulls all this off well, leading up to the ending the book's title suggests, and yet keeping a delicious ambiguity that leaves the reader wondering just what was real here, anyhow. Not quite a bizarrely flashy as some of his shorter works, OEDIPUS CADET is a wonderful exercise in style, looking behind the American dream to find a psyche full of nightmares and confusion. (185 pp. tpb)

★★★★★

Ray Spencer, **WHITE BREAD: PERSONAL REFLECTIONS AND OBSERVATIONS ON CONTEMPORARY LIFE** ($4.50 from Lee Rafales, Renaissance Publications, 3524 Middleton Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45220): Ray appears to be writing for the best of reasons: because he has things to say. The key seems to be trying to maintain a 60's awareness of the world in a deteriorating 90's; one common theme is the fragility of civilization, its increasing vulnerability to a technological collapse, house of cards style. But he also writes of his father, job-hunting, an urban nightmare in which Garfield is replaced by Felix, and much more. Best of all, he has a fine style, a straightforward way with words that makes his essays and stories fun to read. It's rare these days to find an essayist, someone who can write about many subjects and make them all worth reading—but Spencer is one of them. (95 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Susanna J. Sturgis, Ed., **THE WOMEN WHO WALK THROUGH FIRE** ($11.95 from The Crossing Press, PO Box 1048, Freedom, CA 95019): Volume Two of Women's Fantasy and Science Fiction, these are stories of women who not only brave elements, emotions and dusty winds of the future—but themselves. This is important, because there's more to being brave than just carrying a scimitar in the jungle; you have to want to know how. And these women do. sometimes whether they like it or not. Phyllis Ann Karr's "Night of the Short Knives" is a treacherous futuristic tale of people—both sexes—literally decapitating others in a macabre survival game. "Earth and Sky Words" by Cathy Hingar Haustein and Deborah H. Fruin's "New Age Baby" are more internal, with their heroes undergoing an inner battle—that which keeps them sane. These stories stand out, but they are all unique, yet the common thread here is not so much women vs. men as humans trying—and succeeding in—surviving. (275 pp. tpb/CG)

★★★★★

Michael A. Thomas, **CROSSWINDS** ($8 from Amador Publishers, PO Box 12335, Albuquerque, NM 87195): A fun but serious little book set in the outback of New Mexico. The protagonist is Rodney Gardner, who could be a competent enoughperson at getting through life if not for a tendency to go off half-cocked. This has already resulted in his separation from his wife, shortly puts a backhoe into a septic tank, and leads to all sorts of other repercussions over the course of the book, eventually nearing the level of slapstick. Along the way we're treated to a couple of fights, a love story or two, plenty of local color and even some fairly deep philosophy about the way the world works. I found CROSSWINDS to be a fast and enjoyable read, taking me into another culture and other lives, provoking both laughter and thought. (169 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Seth Tobocman, **YOU DON'T HAVE TO FUCK PEOPLE OVER TO SURVIVE** ($7 from Pressure Drop Press, PO Box 460754, San Francisco, CA 94146): Despite some problems with printers who didn't want to touch anything with *that word* on the cover, Pressure Drop has succeeded in putting out another fine book. Seth is the driving force behind **WORLD WAR 3 ILLUSTRATED**, and if you've ever seen that zine (or a number of other resistance papers from New York), you know his work—stark, stencil-like, images of oppression and fighting back. His graphic about shutting down the city (reproduced here) is already something of a classic. Other parts of the collection address homelessness, the need to disbelieve the media, and the alligators lurking inside of us. Harsh images of alienation and hope that deserve the wider circulation this book will get them. (136 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

Jim Wortham & Barbara Whitener, **FORGET THE GAS PUMPS—MAKE YOUR OWN FUEL** ($4.95 from Marathon International Book Company, Dept. A, PO Box 33008, Louisville, KY 40232-3008): This is a simple and straightforward guide to making your car run on alcohol, today, more or less legally. It starts with plans for the classic copper-tubing still and a solar still, along with a recipe for converting corn into high-proof spirits. (But remember, drinking any of the product would be *illegal*). Wortham and Whitener then go on to explain the necessary modifications to your carburetor to burn an alcohol-water mix, which any competent mechanic can make. (Heck, I could do them myself). The book closes with the legal way to get a permit for distilling experimental fuels. This is the catch to the whole process—although you can experiment with the stuff, you can't legally drive a 100% alcohol-fueled car on the road. But maybe someday... (85 pp. tpb/MG)

★★★★★

## BOOK NOTES

- **The 1990/91 Directory of Intentional Communities** is out now, with contact info for 320 North American communities, 55 groups on other continents, and over 250 resource groups, along with 40 articles on topics from finding your community to land trusts and community economics. You can get a copy for $13.50 postpaid from Sandhill Farm, Route 1 Box 155-R, Rutledge, MO 63563.
- **@ Distribution** (339 Lafayette St. #202, New York, NY 10012) has a new catalog out of anarchist and related titles for sale by mail, You can get a copy for 65¢ postage.
- **ANAMNESIS** (PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208) is a seller of "Rare Books for the Eclectic Collector", from Rubin "Hurricane" Carter's story to ENCYCLOPEDIA OF OCCULTISM. 50¢ or so for a catalog.
- **BOOKS ARE EVERYTHING** (R.C. & Elwanda Holland, 302 Martin Dr., Richmond, KY 40475) holds periodic auctions of vintage paperbacks. $5 will put you on the list to get the illustrated auction lists as they come out.
- **The Book Stable Catalog** (5326 Tomahawk Trail, Fort Wayne, IN 46804) features books and magazines about horses. You can get the current catalog for a buck.
- **D.C. Books** (30 Clifford Dr., West Hartford, CT 06107) carries an increasing number of collectible science fiction and fantasy books. Send a buck and you'll get a current catalog.
- **DEATH IN VENICE** is a coming anthology looking for suspense and mystery fiction linked to that city. Contact David Alexander, Target Publications, PO Box 300371, Brooklyn, NY 11230-0012.
- **Delectus Books** (Dept V, 27 Old Gloucester Street, London WC1N 3XX, UK) has released a new catalog featuring the works of De Sade, Sacher-Masoch, and The Olympia Press, among other goodies. $3 will get you a copy in the states.
- **Chris Drumm** (PO Box 445, Polk City, IA 50226) sells books int he SF and related categories. He's also got a unique club which you can join to get discounts on current fiction as it comes out, and his own line of spiffy small-press pubs featuring Lafferty and others. Send a buck for a sample catalog.
- **Elderly Instruments** (PO Box 14210, Lansing, MI 48901) has a fat catalog of books and videos relating to traditional music available, probably for $1.
- You can get an excerpt from the book **ENCOUNTERS WITH AUTHORS** (Specifically, an interview with BF Skinner) by sending an SASE to Twin Rivers Press, PO Box 119, Ellenton, FL 34222.
- **GOING OUT**, the serialized novel by John Strausbaugh (see review in FF37) should be just about finished when you get this issue of FF. We'll review the whole thing in our next issue; meanwhile, if you want to get hold of this bit of comic genius, send $24.95 to Dolphin-Moon, PO Box 22262, Baltimore, MD 21203.
- **John Holt's Book & Music Store** (Holt Associates, 2269 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140) is a resource for adults and kids interested in home schooling. You can get their catalog for the asking.
- **Lindisfarne Press** (RR4 Box 94 A 1, Hudson, NY 12534) publishes a variety of esoteric books, including tomes on prehistory, Gaia, and the liberation of consciousness. Their Fall catalog looks to be about a buck.
- **Loompanics** (PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368) has got their winter catalog supplement out, with books on dope, counterfeiting, cryonics, and other goodies. $3 will put you on their catalog mailing list.
- **David A. McClintock** (PO Box 1949, Warren, OH 44482-1949) deals in rare books, from SF and REH fanzines to reprinted Victorian erotica to first editions of STARSHIP TROOPERS—the latter yours for a mere $750.00. 25¢ for his latest catalog.
- **Jeffrey Meyerson** (8801 Shore Rd. #6A-East, Brooklyn, NY 11209) sells lots of mysteries by mail, hundreds on every one of his frequent lists. A buck will get you a list or two. #88 includes lots of goodies he picked up on a recent trip to England.
- **The Natural Energy Works Catalog of Life Energy Books and Products** is now available for $1 from PO Box 864, El Cerrito, CA 94530. They stock a lot of works by Wilhelm Reich and other researchers in the orgone field.
- **We Never Sleep** (PO Box 92, Denver, CO 80201) carries a line of books from folks like Warhol, Dick and Gibson, as well as tomes on the assassins and other outre subjects. Write for a current catalog.
- **Mark Ziesing** (PO Box 76, Shingletown, CA 96088) lives clear out in California and I still buy books from him, because he's a neat guy and puts out one hell of a cool catalog of current SF and horror and fun books, one that assumes the customer is not an idiot. Send a buck or two to get a sample.

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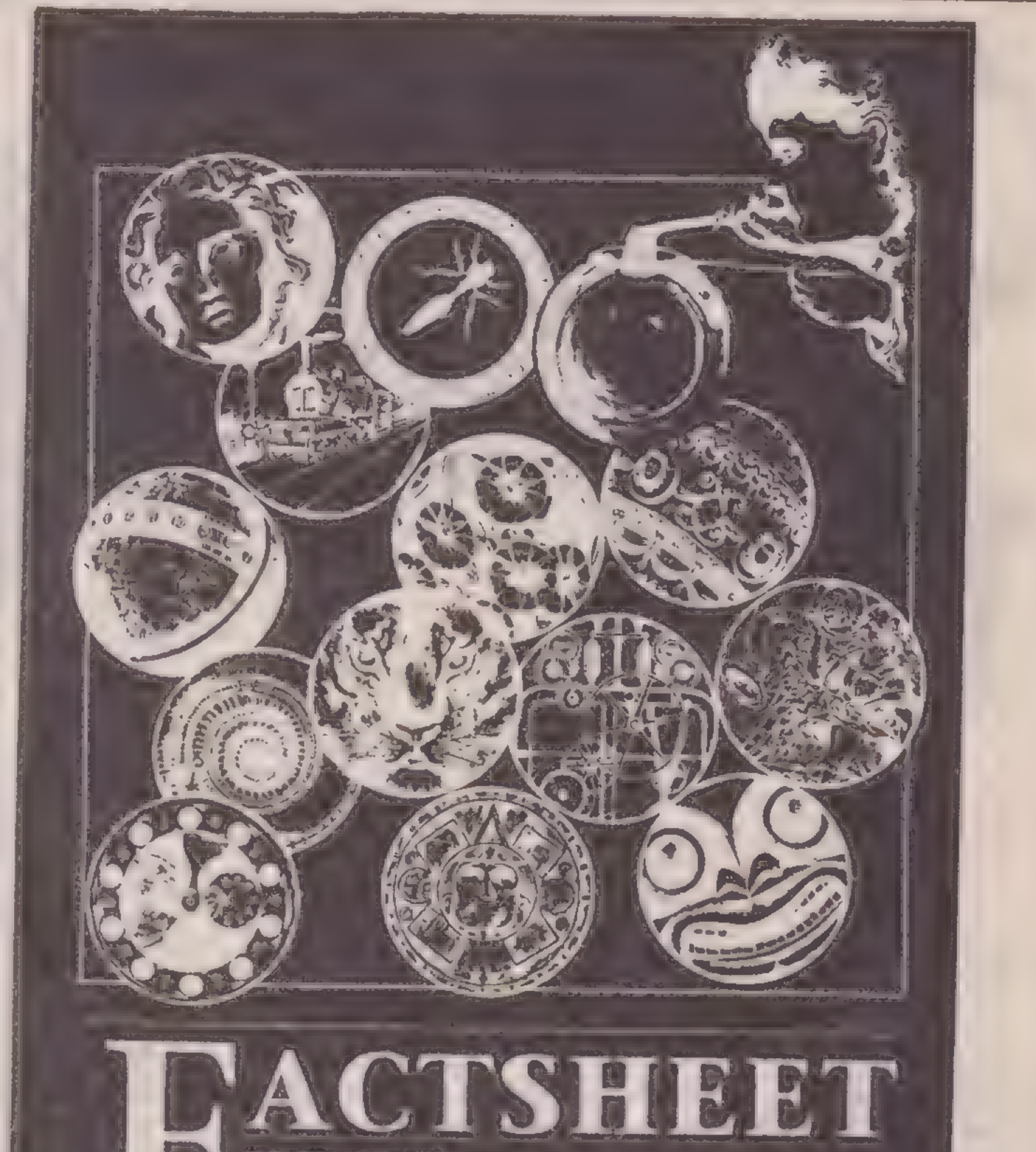

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A NEW BOOK FROM PRESSURE DROP PRESS

YOU DON'T HAVE TO FUCK PEOPLE OVER TO SURVIVE

By Seth Tobocman

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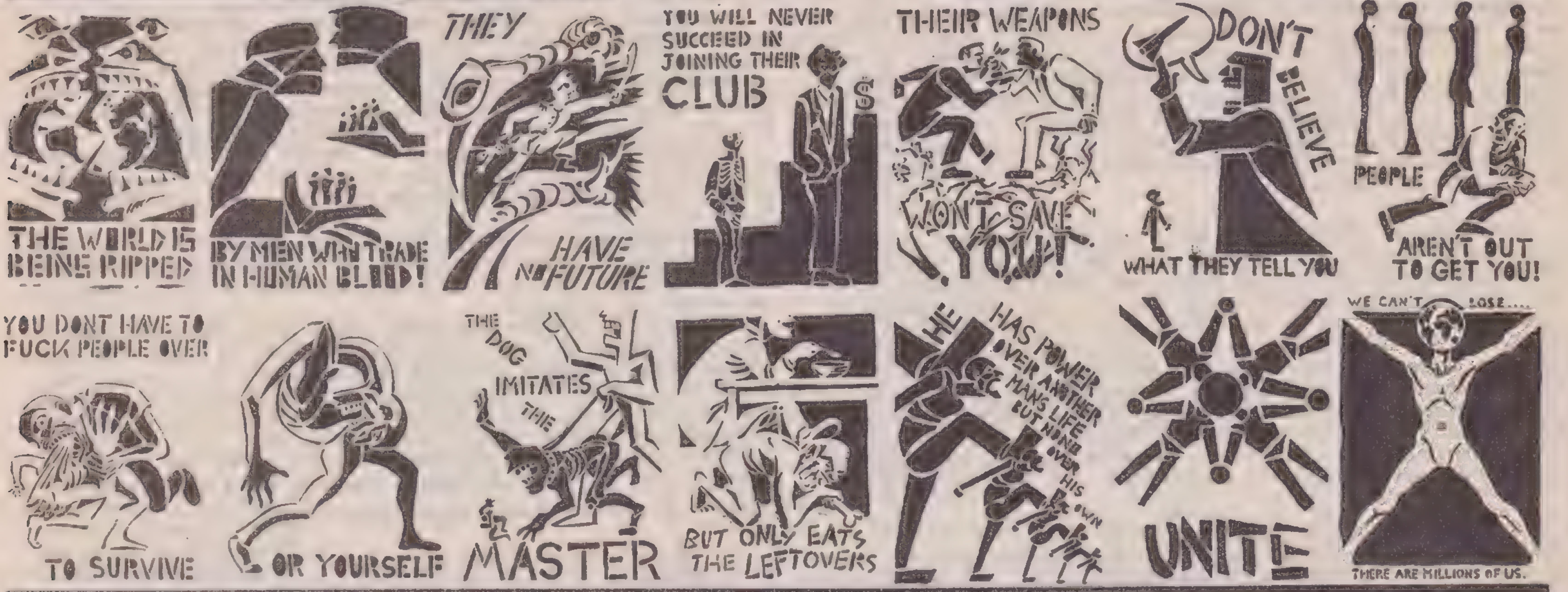
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I am interested in hearing music from all cultures, especially Russia. Also, if anyone knows how I can become penpals with Russians I would appreciate it.

Rob Ricci
252 Parrott Dr.
San Mateo, CA 94402

*****

Bruce La Bruce here. I've sent you a video of my new movie under separate cover, and enclosed here the insert for the video box plus a poster. I should probably give you a bit of background on my censorship problems so far, 'cause your readers would probably be interested. Recently I tried to ge a 16mm print here in Toronto from a 16mm neg developed autside of the country (Berlin) and then 'smuggled' in. The lab apparently didn't like what they saw, 'cause they called the cops. Specifically, the self-titled "Morality Squad," who went directly to the lab to view "No Skin Off My Ass." They wanted to confiscate the negative outright, but the owner of the lab, who I've been dealing with for years, talked them out of it for some reason (I guess he was somewhat sympathetic, even if he did call the cops - I don't think he expected such an extreme reaction.) Instead, he said he'd supervise the cutting out of what the morality boys deemed "3 offending scenes," which were designated by them as "BONDAGE," "NUDITY with VIOLENCE," and "SUCKING OF TOES." None of these scenes contain any overt sexual acts per se, although there are unsimulated blow-job and jerk-off scenes elsewhere in the movie that weren't mentioned. The "bondage" scene is a dream sequence - a series of tableaux of a fag and a naked skinhead in bondage who licks the fag's boots accompanied by Nico singing "Deutschland Uber Alles" - but, of course, the morality squad was looking at a negative without sound, making their judgement merely on the images. The 'nudity with violence' scene has a woman in a black bra gently nudging a naked skinhead off a couch with her foot. The 'sucking of toes' scene is exactly that; the morality squad said that you can lick a foot in a movie in Ontario, but you can't suck the toes. (Shades of Luis Bunuel's "L'Age D'Or," banned in the 20's for the scene in which the woman sucks on a statue's big toe.) Anyway, to make a long story short, I managed to retrieve the negative uncut, and am currently pursuing other channels to get the 16mm film version finished! which I am supposed to be showing in London and Berlin in November.

Bruce La Bruce
JDs

*****

I picked up a copy of FF # 38 and turned to the poetry reviews, which is my favorite section, being a poet myself, and always being curious about who's putting what into print.

Alas! Alack! and Woe is me! Not only were there no reviews by PJ but there were some of the most offensive reviews I've ever read, written by JR.

Oh Mike! What's the deal? Every one of JR's reviews (with 2 exceptions: Daniel S. Ryan's & Thumbikins) are pretentious, condescending and generally unhelpful in giving the readers any impression of what might be worth reading, while wasting space by quoting excessive lines out of context, JR's descriptions include lines like: "Sort John Ashberry style blather" WHO? (from T. Enslin's review) "But still, this is poetry that doesn't suck" (from D. Lerner's review) Is JR implying that most poetry sucks?!? Why is he reviewing poetry then?!?

Twice he refers to printed poetry as "stand up material" (A. Olds-Ellington's review & J. Vinograd's review) - Does he *know* that these writers perform their work in front of an audience?!? How insulting!

Mike, his reviews are twice as long as yours and CG's, yet say less than 1/2 as much. God, his review of B.Witt's book was embarassing to read: "Sweetness is always weak and vulnerable, that's why guys my age will pay for it. Truth must be understated: if it needs a megaphone it isn't Truth. And the greatest poetry is expressed in language as ordinary as your foldout couch." COME ON, DUDE! GET A LIFE!

I was going to send you some of my recent xeroxed poetry zine stuff but now I'm not so sure. Since there's a chance it would be read and totally misunderstood and unappreciated by an asshole (JR) who's so old he has to pay someone to be sweet to him, FORGET IT!

Tell that guy to stick to reviewing zines or music or something, but keep him away from the poetry, which might require an open mind or some sensitivity or something. After all, I LOVE FF!

Samantha Landry

PS I'm sure JR would give this letter a lousy review!

/* I am grateful for your letter as it gives me an opportunity to briefly explain my critical principles, so that you and other readers will have in hand a grain of salt to take me with. Where material is all in one form, as in Poetry, and there's a great deal of it, more judgemental terms must be applied to distinguish one book from its fellow. I prefer a quote to a description to make my points, example being (to my mind) superior to precept. Where I feel the work is outstanding, I'll quote at length, because it gives the page of reviews a pleasing variety, and gives the writer, if only for an instant, a readership of thousands. And, it must be pointed out, Poetry is sometimes stupid enough to refute by a mere quote—a quality is shares only with Hate literature. For me, as evidently for you, Poetry is a deep and personal interest, and I wish to foster its exponents. If, as you suggest, my misunderstanding and unappreciation is *total,* you might do best to purchase precisely those authors to whom I am harshest.

I should be sorry if you or anyone else were deterred from sending in material because of my faults: please bear in mind that, as the reviewing is shared among three co-editors, I can by no means be the sole or decisive evaluator of an author or magazine which submits material more than once. (JR)

Inasmuch as Jacob is the only published poet among the co-editors, I'm quite happy to have him doing a big chunk of the poetry reviewing. PJ Bellomo has unfortunately had to stop writing for us due to family pressures. I ask your—and other poets'—indulgence while we work on developing a common poetry reviewing style between all the co-editors. (MG)*/

★★★★★

AC Rempt, creator of **ADVENTURES OF A DEAD TEENAGER** and half of the team that produces **RUBBER MALLET COMICS,** is looking for a talented and patient and flexible artist to invest serious time and effort on a project that I believe has some real potential. It's sort of a mainstream thing, but with plenty of perversity—a tripped out, cynical sci fi comic that I think might move if it finds the right audience. I have plenty of ideas (though I'm always open to input), but I need an artist with more talent and patience than I can ever muster to make them work. It would be nice if you lived nearby, but not necessary, Whgat;s important is that you have a distinctive yet accessible style (whatever that means) and are willing to put in the effort with no guarantee of success or even compensation (other than my undying love). If you're interested, send me some stuff and let's talk. NO FLAKES, please!

AC Rempt
260 E. Monroe St.
Pomona, CA 91767

★★★★★

I'm looking for couples in which the *women* involved have initiated an open romantic/sexual relationship between two couples. For instance, in my situation, I fell in love with S___'s husband, and she fell in love with my male lover, and we agreed to try "sharing". So far it's working out wonderfully—we all had dinner together last night and were discussing the possibility of communal living and group child rearing! We've already encountered another sharing group, and are wondering how common this actually is. We're also worried about losing our jobs, being accused of abusing S___'s children, or being misinterpreted as "Swingers" or "wife swappers". Also, "our" men are basking in their feeling of being studs, while we women feel a bit guilty and bad—the old misogynistic double standard.

I'll trade advice & insights with anyone on this subject, or trade feminist/anarchist homemade posters with anyone. I'm also looking for anyone who has noticed the alien abduction paranoid fantasy and its relationship to abortion guily.

K.L.
PO Box 302
VC, NV 89440

★★★★★

★★★★★

I'm never quite sure how to pay for US mags: perhaps as your networking will get you into contact with increasing nos. of Euros. some advice in yr. info. columns at the front on how to pay for things would help...I'd guess I should change £ into $ and send cash, is that how it's done? Or am I thick?

Andy J.
**10th MUSE**

/* No, I think that's the best way to do it; IRCs lose too much value crossing the Atlantic. Perhaps there's an opportunity here for someone in the zine scene to get involved in changing cash, though I'm not very clear on how this would work. */

Your censorship centrespread in FF37 was particularly interesting for me as on 10th May, 1990, my house was searched by the NZ Customs department and several dozen magazines and catalogues were seized, including three issues of **UKIYO-X** and an adult Star Trek fanzine called **BEYOND THE FARTHEST STAR!**

I contested the seizure and these magazines have finally been decided on at an Indecent Publications tribunal hearing last month (October). I do not yet know the decisions on the various magazines seized.

My house was searched as Customs had stopped several enema and other bizarre sex magazines ('pro porn') that I had imported to review in a Strange Sex issue of **KILLER KUNG-FUN ENEMA NURSES ON CRACK.**

Since then (January this year) they have targeted my mail and seized several fanzines including **ART ZOO** and **IT'S SPLATTER (#5).** Customs do not make the actual decision, that is done by the Indecent Publications tribunal who interpret a stricter law for books and magazines that is far more repressive than the film and video censorship laws. In addition, there is a special clause about comic books which has resulted in the Customs department seizing dozens of alternative 'mature readers' comics ranging from **HELLRAISER** to **OMAHA** (from specialist ships, not me!)

Initially they just went for sexual material. Now they seem to be going for horror and violence. I wonder when they will decide to seize **FANGORIA** magazine? No great loss you might think, but its the principle that counts.

For the above reasons (ie I have been heavily involved in fighting the seizures), KKENOC #3 has been delayed for months. But it is now close to being printed (this is the special Censorship issue and should prove very interesting reading for Americans who think *they've* got problems!).

If anybody has sent me money and not received **KKENOC #2** could they please write to me again and I'll send a copy. The place has been a mess ever since the search (hell, it was a mess before the search!) and although I think I've sent them all out, somebody could have been missed.

Peter Hassall
**KILLER KUNG-FU ENEMA NURSES ON CRACK**

★★★★★

Please notify your readers I am looking for all high school and college newspapers they have. If they want I will pay back the price of postage. No repeat issues please.

W.A. Thompson
204 Sunrise Ave.
Smithfield, NC 27577

★★★★★

I'm going to create a contact box zine with addresses of people from all the world who would like to exchange zines, records, cassettes, informationss, to get to know people and independent music (hc, punk, new wave, experimental and others) from other countries. If you want your address printed in this zine send it to me on a post-card, please. If you want to publish some ads write too.

Ryszard Kapusta
ul. Wojska Polskiego 5a
36-100 Kolbuszowa
woj. Rzeszow
POLAND

★★★★★

I'm a devoted reader of **FACTSHEET FIVE** and thank you for providing the networking service. I would appreciate it if you could alert your readers to a project that a few of us are working on. We are compiling a list of original names that couples have for sexual positions (and a description of what it is). We're not sure where we're going with this, maybe just turn it into a large catalog/pamphlet. A couple of the names we've gathered already include:

"It's a Goodie"
"Stinkbug"
"Table View"
"Puzzle Pieces"

Pete & Floater
Lizard Funk Door
4128 #A Howe St.
Oakland, CA 94611

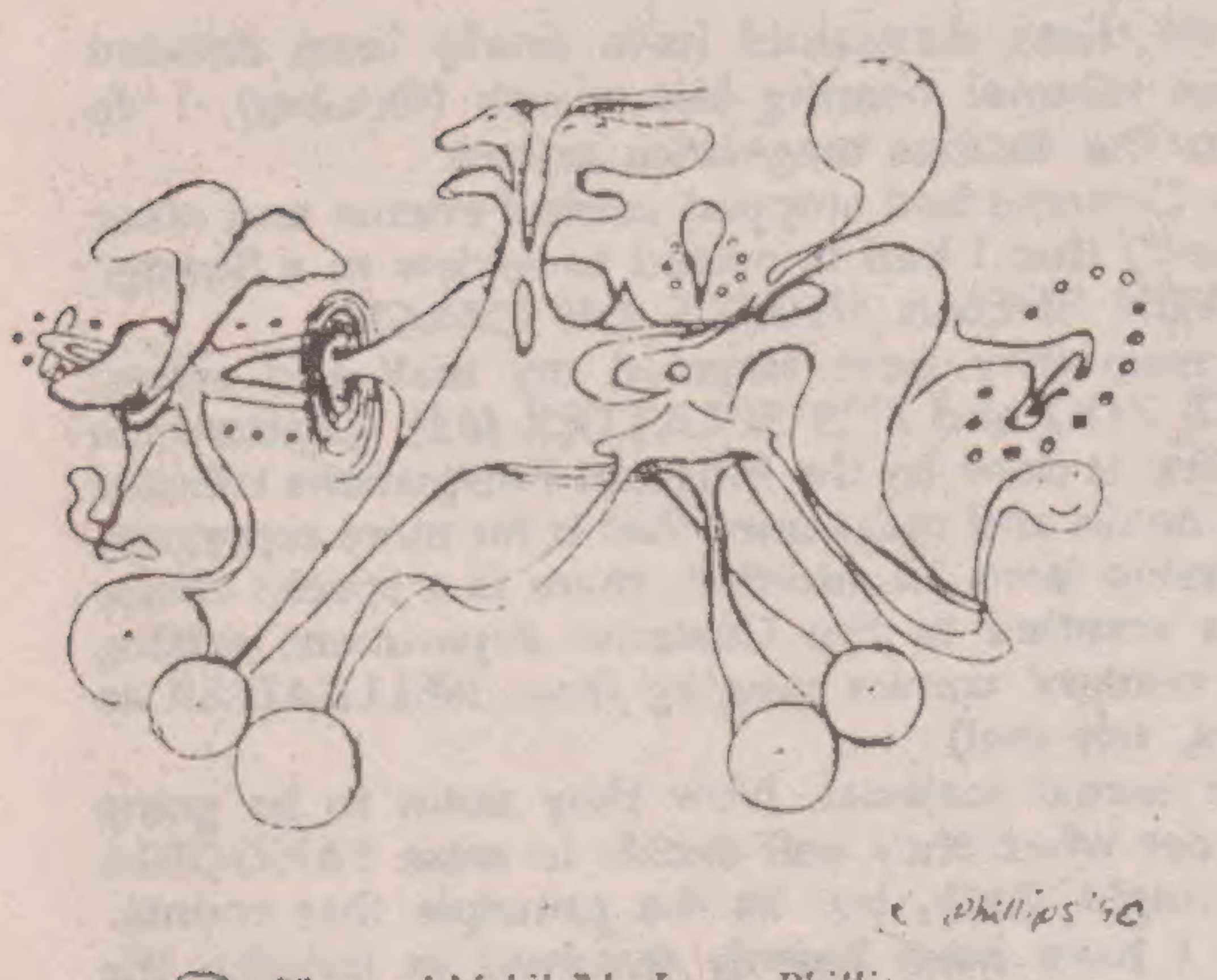
★★★★★

Hello all—this is Sheila Gibson, The Easel, editor in chief of **IT'S** magazine, the Monty Python Fanzine. And I realize I've been very naughty as of late. So I'm writing this letter to sincerely and most grovelingly apologize to my confused (and probably pissed-off) readers. In the last year I've been beseiged with bad luck and the real world. For one, I was banned from the use of school computers to produce the magazine, leaving me virtually inoperable. And after my fact-finding trip to London, I was utterly bankrupt. Then I was thrust into the college applications maelstrom. As I said, it wasn't a pretty year. The good news is I've settled in at college, I have a computer and printer of my own and I'm working myself into a position to revive the magazine, circa March 1991.

I wish to invite ANYONE who ordered a zine and didn't get one to contact me at the following address: Boland Hall, Bx 227, 401 Van Buren St., Syracuse, NY 13210. I will send you all the new zine when it comes out. Once again, I am really, really sorry to everyone who was forgotten or felt as if they were screwed and I look forward to producing a new issue come March 1991.

Thanks for your patience.

Sheila Gibson



© "Surreal Mobile" by Larry Phillips

Larry Phillips, Surreal and Fantasy Artist, is seeking to network with everyone interested in friendship and career development.

PLEASE CONTACT:

Larry Phillips
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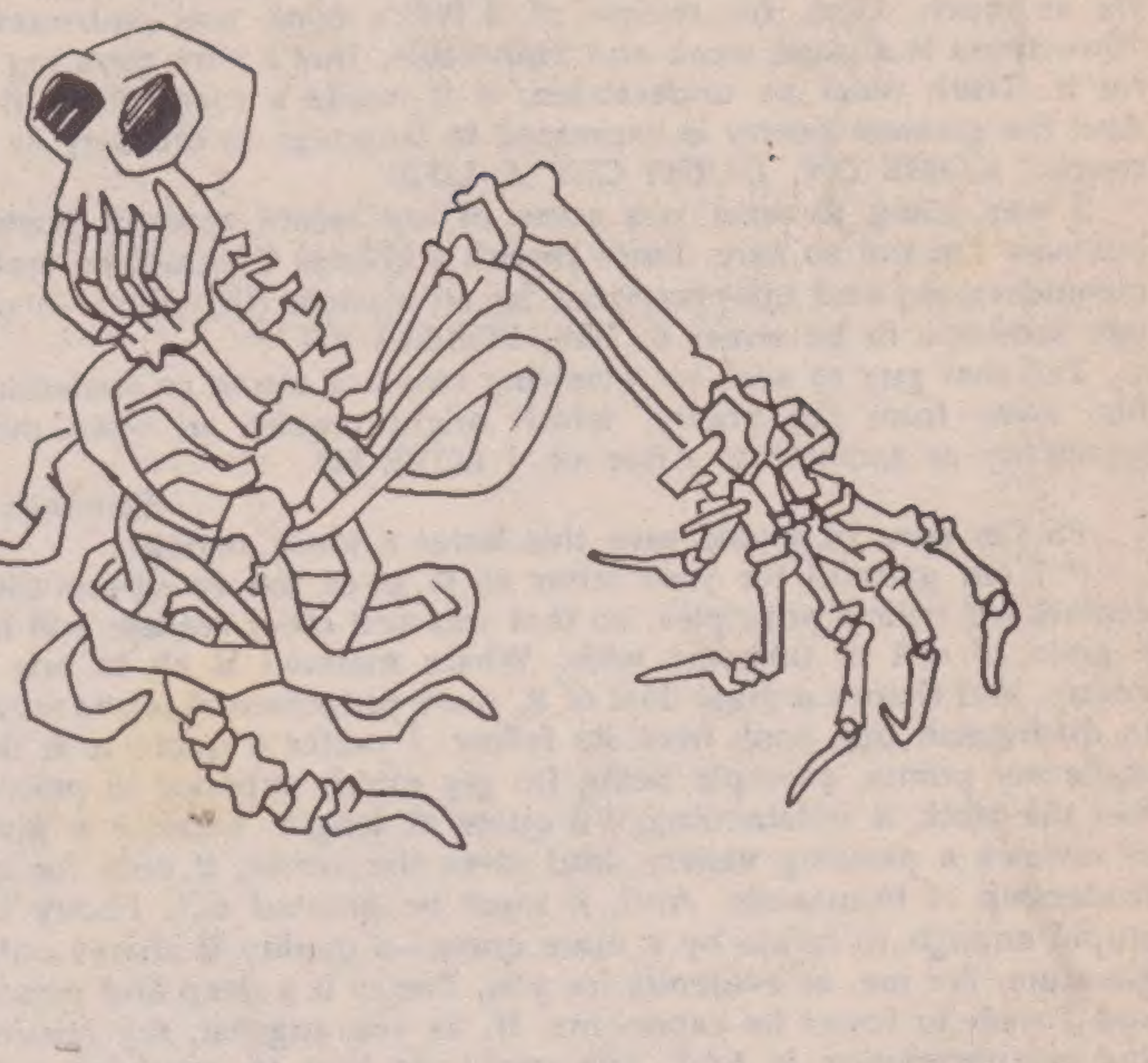
Syracuse, NY 13202



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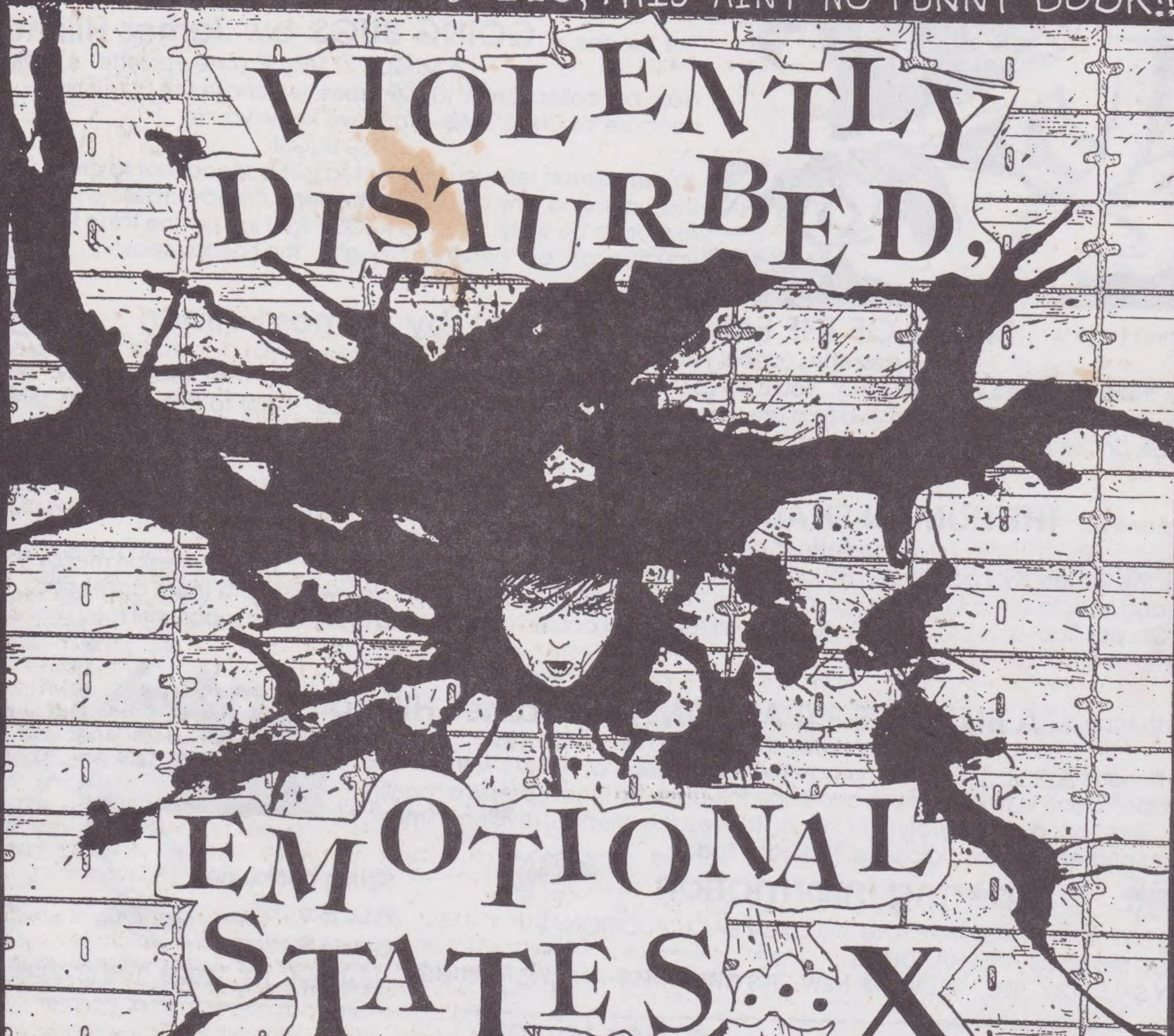

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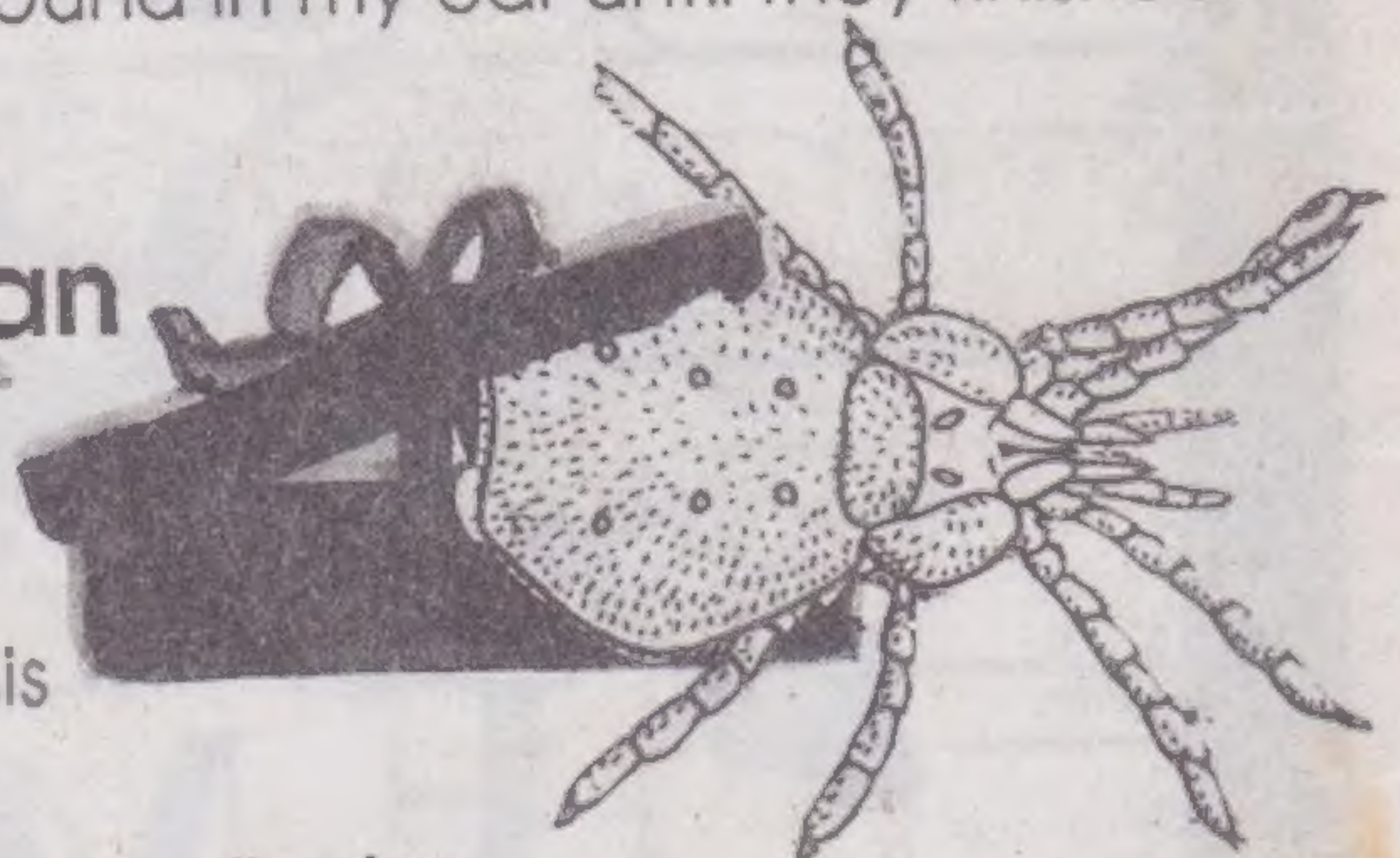

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